



North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

North East Lincolnshire Council

Final report

Prepared by LUC

February 2023

Version	Status	Prepared	Checked	Approved	Date
1	Draft SA Scoping Report	H Ennis R Finnigan	K Nicholls	K Nicholls	20.01.2023
2	Final SA Scoping Report	H Ennis R Finnigan	K Nicholls	K Nicholls	01.02.2023



Land Use Consultants Limited

Registered in England. Registered number 2549296. Registered office: 250 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8RD. Printed on 100% recycled paper

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 North East Lincolnshire Council commissioned LUC in November 2022 to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the emerging North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review.

1.2 SA/SEA is an assessment process designed to consider and communicate the significant sustainability issues and effects of emerging plans and policies within them, including their alternatives. SA/SEA iteratively informs the plan-making process by helping to refine the contents of plans, so that they maximise the benefits of sustainable development and avoid, or at least minimise, the potential for adverse effects.

1.3 The purpose of this Scoping Report is to provide the context for, and determine the scope of, the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review and to set out the framework for undertaking the later stages of the SA.

1.4 The Scoping stage of SA is summarised below:

- Reviewing other plans, policies and programmes;
- Considering the current state of the environment, as well as social economic factors in the plan area (North East Lincolnshire);
- Identifying any key environmental, social and economic issues which may be affected by the Local Plan Review; and
- Setting out the 'SA framework', which comprises specific sustainability objectives against which the likely effects of the Local Plan Review can be assessed.

The Plan Area

1.5 North East Lincolnshire covers an area of 192km² and is located on the east coast of England, between North Lincolnshire to the north-west, West Lindsey to the west and East Lindsey to the south. The north-eastern boundary of North East Lincolnshire is formed by the Humber Estuary.

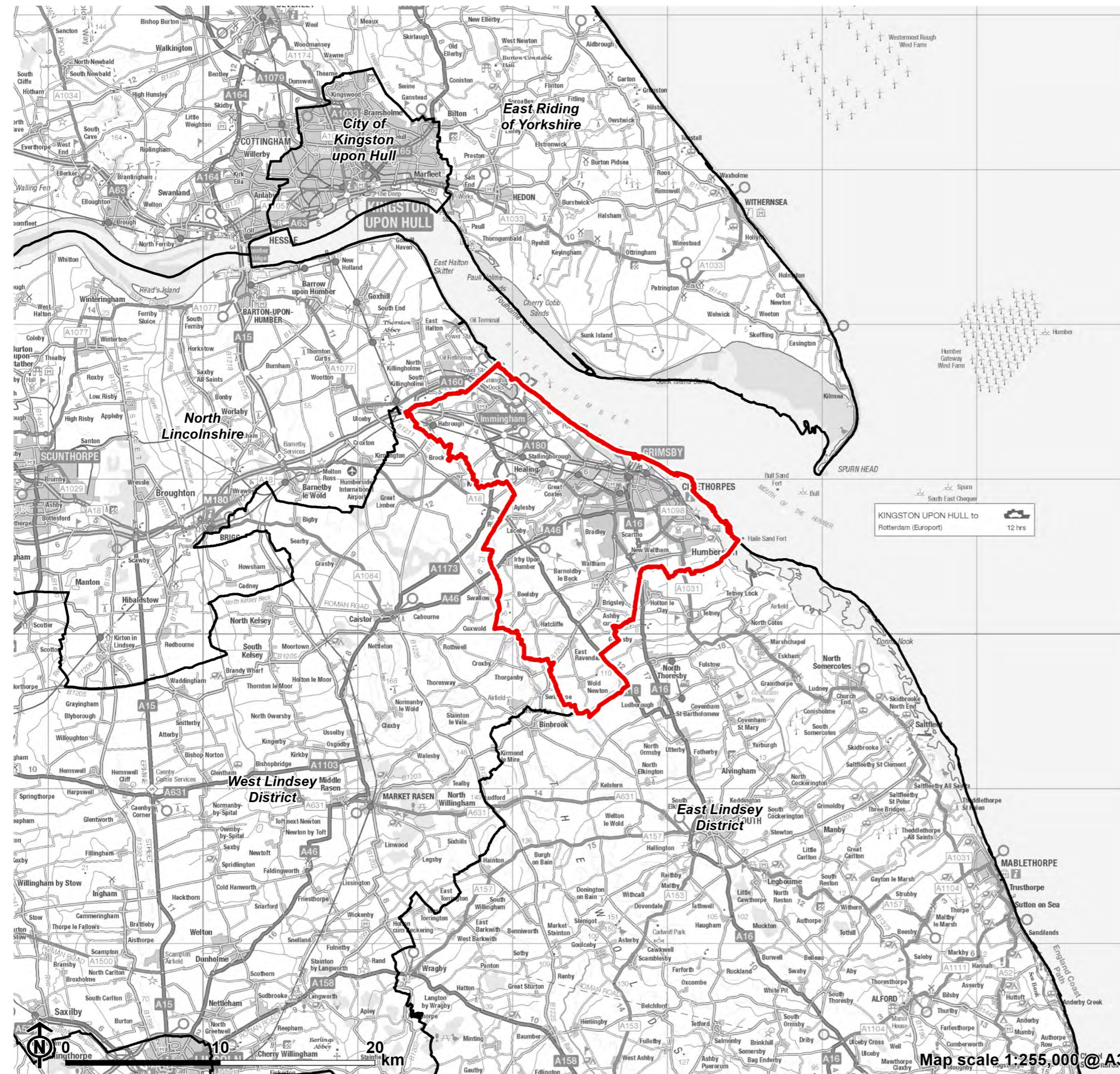
1.6 North East Lincolnshire has a population of 156,966 people [\[See reference 1\]](#), most of whom live in the coastal towns of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham, with the remainder in the more rural areas of the south and west. Outside of the main urban areas and the nearby service settlements, North East Lincolnshire has a distinctly rural character and is comprised mainly of small villages and hamlets.

1.7 The character of the estuary area is primarily industrialised with extensive port development. The port at Immingham, which is the busiest port in the country, has a particularly significant influence on the economy of North East Lincolnshire. The south eastern part of North East Lincolnshire lies within the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB where the landscape comprises a large open plateau of rolling hills and valleys.

1.8 The location of the plan area (North East Lincolnshire) is shown in Figure 1.1.

Figure 1.1: Location of North East Lincolnshire District

- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority



Map scale 1:255,000 @ A3

North East Lincolnshire Local Plan

1.9 North East Lincolnshire adopted the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013 to 2032 on 22nd March 2018. The adopted Local Plan sets out the Council's vision and strategy for North East Lincolnshire up to 2032. It sets out policies and allocates land for specific uses including housing, employment and retail development. It also sets out the criteria for determining planning applications and guides the decision-making process.

1.10 The Council is required to review the Local Plan within five years of its adoption. An initial decision was made to commence a review of the Local Plan in 2020; however the Council decided later the same year to pause work on the Local Plan Review due to the proposed planning reforms. In October 2021 the Council decided to restart work on the Local Plan Review and it approved the Scoping and Issues Paper for informal public engagement on 24th August 2022. The public engagement ran from 26th September to 4th November 2022. The main issues for North East Lincolnshire identified through the Scoping and Issues Paper were housing needs, future employment growth, the climate emergency, town centre changes and the quality of design.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.11 Under the amended Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 [**See reference 2**], SA is mandatory for Development Plan Documents. For these documents it is also necessary to conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC), as transposed into law in England by the SEA Regulations [**See reference 3**] and which remains in force despite the UK exiting the European Union in January 2020. Therefore, it is a legal requirement for the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review to be subject to SA and SEA throughout its preparation.

1.12 On 11th May 2022 the Government published the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill, which sets out in detail the Government’s proposals for reforming the planning system. Amongst other things, the Bill proposes the replacement of the current SEA regime with a new requirement for an Environmental Outcomes Report. The specific requirements will be set out in forthcoming regulations, along with information about transition arrangements; however at present the requirement for SEA remains as set out in existing legislation. Any changes to the legal framework for carrying out SA/SEA will be addressed as appropriate as the Local Plan Review is prepared.

1.13 The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both using a single appraisal process (as advocated in the national Planning Practice Guidance [[See reference 4](#)]), whereby users can comply with the requirements of the SEA Regulations through a single integrated SA process – this is the process that is being undertaken in North East Lincolnshire. From here on, the term ‘SA’ should therefore be taken to mean ‘SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Regulations’.

1.14 The SA process comprises a number of stages, with Scoping being Stage A as shown below:

- Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.
- Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects.
- Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
- Stage D: Consulting on the Local Plan Review and the SA Report.
- Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan Review.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

1.15 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the Habitats

Regulations published for England and Wales in July 2007, updated in 2010 and again in 2012 and 2017 [See reference 5]. The Regulations translate Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) and 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive) into UK law and remain a legal requirement despite the UK exiting the European Union.

1.16 The purpose of HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

1.17 The HRA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review will be undertaken separately but the findings will be taken into account in the SA where relevant (for example to inform judgements about the likely effects of potential development locations on biodiversity).

Approach to Scoping

1.18 There are five tasks involved at the Scoping Stage:

- Stage A1: Setting out the policy context for the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review (i.e. key Government policies and strategies that influence what the Local Plan Review and the SA need to consider).
- Stage A2: Setting out the baseline for the SA of the Local Plan Review (i.e. the current and likely future environmental, social and economic conditions in North East Lincolnshire).
- Stage A3: Drawing on A1 and A2, identify the particular sustainability problems and/or opportunities ('issues') that the Local Plan Review and the SA should address.
- Stage A4: Drawing on A1, A2 and A3, develop a framework for SA objectives and assessment criteria to appraise the constituent parts of the Local Plan Review in isolation and in combination.

- Stage A5: Consultation on the scope of the SA.

1.19 This Scoping Report fulfils the requirements set out above with a view to establishing the likely significant effects of constituent parts of the Local Plan Review both in isolation and in combination. In accordance with national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), published on-line by the Government, the Scoping Report should be proportionate and relevant to the Local Plan Review, focussing on what is needed to identify and assess the likely significant effects.

Meeting the Requirements of the SEA Regulations

1.20 The relevant sections of the Scoping Report that are considered to meet the SEA Regulations requirements are signposted below (the remainder will be met during subsequent stages of the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review. This information will be included in the full SA Report at each stage of plan making to show how the requirements of the SEA Regulations have been met through the SA process.

1.21 The SEA Regulations [\[See reference 6\]](#) require the responsible authority to prepare, or secure the preparation of, an 'environmental report', which in this case will comprise the SA report. The report shall identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of the following (requirements in green shaded text below, where each requirement is met is provided in the bullets below):

Implementing the plan or programme; and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme. (Regulation 12(1) and (2) and Schedule 2)

- The full SA Report that will be produced to accompany consultation on the Local Plan Review will constitute the 'environmental report' and will be

produced at a later stage in the SA process but will include the relevant parts of the Scoping Report as noted below.

An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.

- Covered in Chapter 1, Chapter 2 and Appendix A.

The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.

- Covered in Chapter 3.

The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.

- Covered in Chapter 3.

Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and the Habitats Directive.

- Covered in Chapter 3.

The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.

- Covered in Chapter 2 and Appendix A.

The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as: (a) biodiversity; (b) population; (c) human health; (d) fauna; (e) flora; (f) soil; (g) water; (h) air; (i) climatic factors; (j) material assets; (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; (l) landscape; and (m) the interrelationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l).

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process, however Appendix B sets out how significant effects will be determined for each SA objective when assessing specific site options.

The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

The report shall include such of the information referred to in Schedule 2 to these Regulations as may reasonably be required, taking account of:

- Current knowledge and methods of assessment;
- The contents and level of detail in the plan or programme;
- The stage of the plan or programme in the decision-making process; and
- The extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process in order to avoid duplication of the assessment. (Regulation 12 (3))

- This Scoping Report and the Environmental Reports will adhere to this requirement.

In terms of consultation, the SEA Regulations require that:

- When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the environmental report, the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies. (Regulation 12(5))
- This Scoping Report is being published for consultation with the three statutory bodies (the Environment Agency, Historic England, and Natural England).

Every draft plan or programme for which an environmental report has been prepared in accordance with regulation 12 and its accompanying report (“the relevant documents”) shall be made available for the purposes of consultation in accordance with the following provisions of this regulation.

As soon as reasonably practical after the preparation of the relevant documents, the responsible authority shall:

- Send a copy of those documents to each consultation body;
- Take such steps as it considers appropriate to bring the preparation of the relevant documents to the attention of the persons who, in the authority’s opinion, are affected or likely to be affected by, or have an interest in the decisions involved in the assessment and adoption of the plan or programme concerned, required under the Environmental assessment of Plans and Programmes Directive (“the public consultees”);
- Inform the public consultees of:
 - (a) the address of the website at which the relevant documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge;
 - (b) the fact that a copy of the relevant documents may be obtained by email from the responsible authority;
 - (c) the fact that a copy of the relevant documents may be obtained by post from the responsible authority, provided that it is reasonably practicable for the authority to provide a copy by post;
 - (d) the address, email address and telephone number for the purpose of requesting a copy of the relevant documents either by email or by post;
 - (e) whether a charge will be made for copies of the relevant documents provided by post and the amount of any charge; and
 - (f) the telephone number which can be used to contact the responsible authority for enquiries in relation to the relevant documents

The period referred to in paragraph (2) (d) must be of such length as will ensure that the consultation bodies and the public consultees are given an effective opportunity to express their opinion on the relevant documents. (Regulation 13 (1), (2), and (3))

- Public consultation on the Local Plan Review and accompanying SA Reports will take place as the Local Plan develops. The intended programme and key stages for plan preparation are set out in the Local Development Scheme which is currently being updated.

Where a responsible authority, other than the Secretary of State, is of the opinion that a plan or programme for which it is the responsible authority is likely to have significant effects on the environment of another Member State, it shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after forming that opinion:

- Notify the Secretary of State of its opinion and of the reasons for it; and
- Supply the Secretary of State with a copy of the plan or programme concerned, and of the accompanying environmental report. (Regulation 14 (1))

- Unlikely to be relevant to the Local Plan Review, as there will be no effects beyond the UK.

1.22 In terms of taking the SA Report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making, the SEA Regulations require (relevant extracts of Regulation 16):

As soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of a plan or programme for which an environmental assessment has been carried out under these Regulations, the responsible authority shall:

- publish the plan or programme, as adopted, its accompanying environmental report and a statement containing the particulars specified in paragraph (4) (“the relevant adoption documents”) on a

public website at which the documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge;

- provide a copy of the relevant adoption documents by email to any person who requests a copy, as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of that person's request;
- provide one copy of the relevant adoption documents by post to any person who requests a copy, as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of that person's request, unless it is not reasonably practicable to provide a copy by post for reasons connected to the effects of coronavirus, including restrictions on movement;
- make available a telephone number for the public to make enquiries in relation to the relevant adoption documents;

- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

As soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of a plan or programme the responsible authority shall inform (i) the consultation bodies; (ii) the persons who, in relation to the plan or programme, were public consultees for the purposes of regulation 13; and (iii) where the responsible authority is not the Secretary of state, the Secretary of State, that the plan or programme has been adopted, and a statement containing the following particulars:

- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme;
- How the environmental report has been taken into account;
- How opinions expressed in response to: (i) the invitation in regulation 13(2)(d); (ii) action taken by the responsible authority in accordance with regulation 13(4), have been taken into account;
- How the results of any consultations entered into under regulation 14(4) have been taken into account;

- The reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
 - The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme.
- Requirement will be met at a later stage in the SA process.

1.23 The SEA Regulations also require that the responsible authority shall monitor the significant effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action (Regulation 17(1)). This requirement will be met after adoption of the Local Plan Review and will include the preparation and publication of Authority Monitoring Reports (AMRs).

Structure of the Scoping Report

1.24 This chapter describes the background to the review and update of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan and the requirement to undertake SA. The remainder of this Scoping Report is structured into the following sections:

- Chapter 2 describes the other plans, policies and programmes of relevance to the SA of the Local Plan Review.
- Chapter 3 presents the baseline information which will inform the assessment of the policies and sites in the Local Plan Review.
- Chapter 4 identifies the key environmental, social and economic issues in North East Lincolnshire of relevance to the Local Plan Review and considers the likely evolution of those issues without its implementation.
- Chapter 5 presents the SA framework that will be used for the appraisal of the Local Plan Review and the proposed method for carrying out the SA.
- Chapter 6 describes the next steps to be undertaken in the SA of the Local Plan Review.

Chapter 1 Introduction

- Appendix A sets out the international and national plans, policies and programmes which are of most relevance to the Local Plan Review.
- Appendix B sets out the assumptions that will be used to inform the consistent appraisal of residential and employment site options.

Chapter 2

Relevant Plans and Programmes

2.1 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires:

- a) “an outline of the contents and main objectives of the Plan and its relationship with other relevant plans or programmes” and
- b) “the environmental protection objectives established at International, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation”

2.2 In order to establish a clear scope for the SA it is necessary to review and develop an understanding of the environmental, social and economic objectives contained within international and national policies, plans and strategies that are of relevance to the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review. Given the SEA Regulations requirements above, it is also necessary to consider the relationship between the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review and other relevant plans, policies and programmes.

2.3 This chapter summarises the relationship of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review to the relevant international and national policies, plans and programmes which should be taken into consideration during preparation of the plan and its SA, as well as those plans and programmes which are of relevance at a County/sub-regional level. The objectives of these plans and programmes have been taken into account when drafting the SA framework in Chapter 5. An

outline of the content and main objectives of the Local Plan Review will be described in subsequent SA reports, as this emerges through the plan-making process.

The Implications of Brexit

2.4 As of the end of January 2020 the UK has left the EU. Principally, the UK's environmental law is derived from EU law or was directly effective EU law. As a result of Brexit, the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 converts existing EU law which applied directly in the UK's legal system (such as EU Regulations and EU Decisions) into UK law and preserves laws made in the UK to implement EU obligations (e.g. the laws which implement EU Directive). This body of law is known as retained EU law and could be subject to future, post-Brexit amendments.

2.5 As set out in the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the Brexit amendments [\[See reference 7\]](#), the purpose of the Brexit amendments to the SEA Regulations is to ensure that the law functions correctly after the UK has left the EU. No substantive changes are made by this instrument to the way the SEA regime operates.

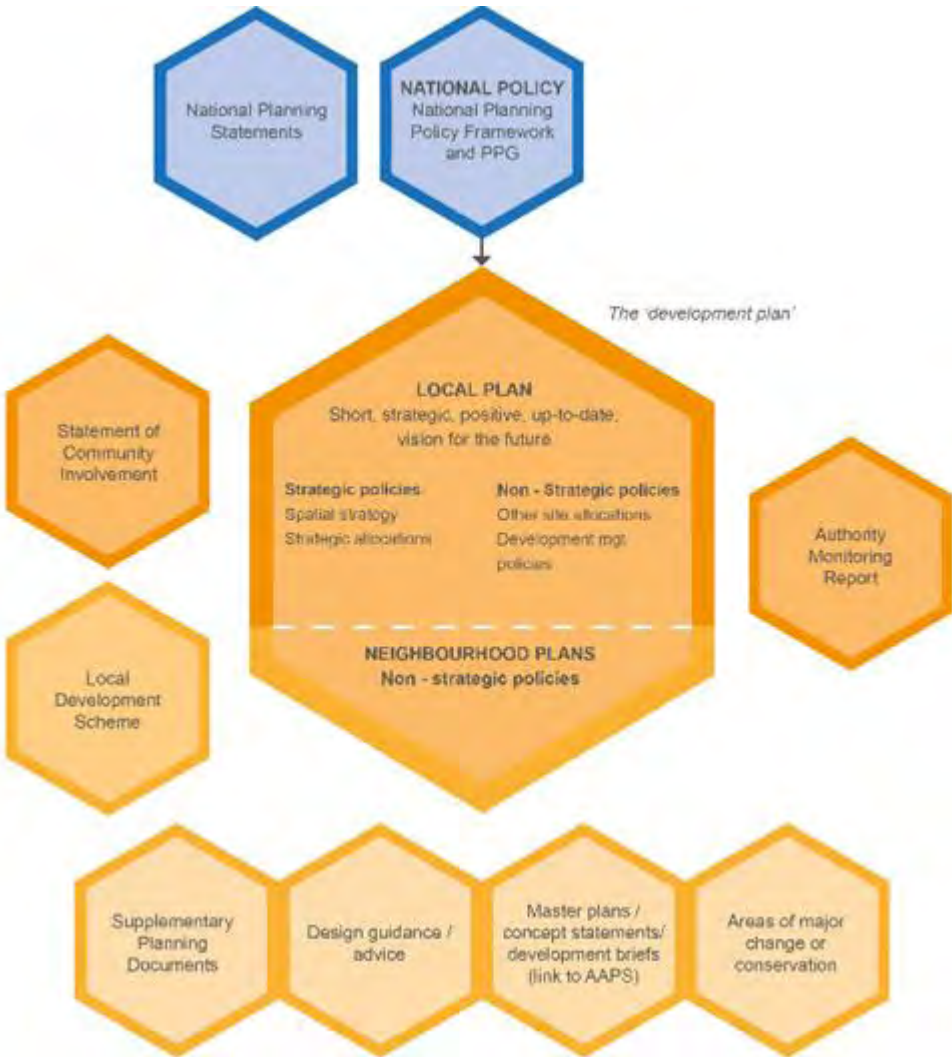
2.6 Relevant international plans and policy (including those at the EU level) are transposed into national plans, policy and legislation and these have been considered in this chapter and in Appendix A.

Relationship with Other Relevant Plans or Programmes

2.7 The North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review is not prepared in isolation and must be in conformity with a range of international and national plans and programmes as show in Figure 2.1 below. In addition, the Local Plan for North East Lincolnshire comprises any 'made' Neighbourhood Plans within the district

and is supported by other documents such as the Statement of Community Involvement, Local Development Scheme, Authority Monitoring Report and Supplementary Planning Documents, also shown in Figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1: DPD Relationship with other relevant plans and programmes



International

2.8 At the international level, there is a wide range of plans and programmes which act to inform and shape national level legislation. Planning policy in

England at a national and local level (i.e. the NPPF and Local Plan) should be aware of and in conformity with the relevant legislation. The main sustainability objectives of international plans and programmes which are of most relevance for the Local Plan Review and the SA are provided in Appendix A.

National

2.9 There is an extensive range of national policies, plans and programmes that are of relevance to the Local Plan Review and the SA process. A pragmatic and proportionate approach has been taken with regards to the identification of key national policies, plans and programmes, focusing on those that are of most relevance. A summary of the main objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance of relevance to the Local Plan and SA is provided below. In addition, the main sustainability objectives of other national plans and programmes which are of most relevance for the Local Plan and SA are provided in Appendix A.

The National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance

2.10 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) [[See reference 8](#)] is the overarching planning framework which provides national planning policy and principles for the planning system in England. The NPPF was originally published in March 2012, revised in July 2018, updated in February 2019 and again in July 2021. The most recent update to the NPPF places an increased focus on design quality. This includes for sites as well as for places as a whole. The terminology included in the Framework on protecting and enhancing the environment and promoting a sustainable pattern of development has been revised. Furthermore, revisions are included in relation to policies which address opting out of permitted development, the use of masterplans and design codes and the important contribution of trees in new developments. Consultation on changes to the NPPF alongside the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill is currently underway until March 2023. This chapter reflects

the NPPF as it currently stands and will be updated where required in future iterations of this SA report, if further changes are formally made to the NPPF.

2.11 The three overarching objectives of the planning system are set out in paragraph 8 of the NPPF, which should be pursued in mutually supportive ways so that net gains are achieved across each of the different objectives:

- “an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;
- a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being; and
- an environmental objective – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.”

2.12 The Local Plan Review must be consistent with the requirements of the NPPF, which states “Succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings”.

2.13 A local planning authority is also required to have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State when preparing a Local Plan [\[See reference 9\]](#).

2.14 Paragraph 20 of the NPPF states the need for strategic policies in plan making, which set out the overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places, making sufficient provision for:

- “a) housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- b) infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- c) community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and
- d) conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.”

2.15 The National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) [\[See reference 10\]](#) provides guidance for how the Government’s planning policies for England are expected to be applied. Sitting alongside the NPPF, it provides an online resource that is updated on a regular basis for the benefit of planning practitioners.

2.16 The overarching nature of the NPPF means that its implications for the SA relate to multiple topics which this report seeks to address. Considering the importance of the NPPF to the English planning system, the relevance of the Framework and its implications for the plan making process and the SA is provided in more detail below. Sustainability topics are separated into environmental, social and economic below, but consideration of issues often cuts across topics. The summary provided below is not absolutely comprehensive and the NPPF is intended to be read and applied as a whole during plan making.

Environmental and Social Considerations

2.17 Climate change adaptation and mitigation, energy efficiency and waste minimisation measures for new development including through the promotion of renewable energy schemes are also supported through the NPPF. One of the core planning principles is to “support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure”. Furthermore, local planning authorities should adopt a proactive approach to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures.

2.18 Although Local Plans can no longer require levels of the Code for Sustainable Homes, they can promote the Home Quality Mark to support residents in understanding the quality and performance of new build homes and can also set targets for developers to provide for a given percentage of energy used by a new development to come from on-site renewable or low carbon technologies. Local Plan policies can further support the development of renewable energy technologies where appropriate, in line with climate change mitigation strategies and targets. The UK Green Building Council has produced a resource pack which is designed to help local authorities improve the sustainability of new homes. The New Homes Policy Playbook [See reference 11] sets out minimum requirements for sustainability in new homes that local authorities should introduce, as well as proposed stretching requirements should local authorities wish to go further. For non-residential uses BREEAM assessments can be used by local authorities to ensure buildings meet sustainability objectives.

2.19 The SA can consider the contribution the alternatives make in terms of contribution to climate change mitigation as well as climate change adaptation.

2.20 In relation to health and wellbeing, healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social integration, are safe and accessible, and enable and support healthy lifestyles are supported through the Framework. The Building for a Healthy Life design toolkit [\[See reference 12\]](#) can be used by local authorities to assist in the creation of places that are better for people and nature.

2.21 One of the core planning principles is to “take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community”. It is identified in the document that “a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation is important for the health and well-being of communities”. Furthermore, the retention and enhancement of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports, cultural venues and places of worship is supported. Importantly, Local plans should also “contain policies to optimise the use of land in their area and meet as much of the identified need for housing as possible”. Additionally, larger scale developments such as new settlements or significant extensions to existing villages and towns are required by the NPPF to be guided by policies set within a vision that looks at least 30 years ahead [\[See reference 13\]](#). The need for policies to be reflective of this longer time period is to take account of the likely timescale for delivery.

2.22 The delivery of new housing is considered to support local communities by meeting housing needs and addressing shortages. The Local Plan Review can have a significant influence on addressing inequalities including those relating to health and will need to consider the appropriate siting of new development, particularly large development sites that are likely to include new service and facility provisions. The Local Plan Review can ensure that new development is located in areas which can improve accessibility for existing as well as new residents and ensure that future development does not exacerbate existing inequalities. The SA process can support the identification and refinement of options that can contribute to reducing inequalities and support the development of policy approaches that cumulatively improve the wellbeing of local communities.

2.23 NPPF sets out the approach Local Plans should have in relation to biodiversity and states that Plans should “identify, map and safeguard

components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation". Plans should also promote conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats and species, ecological networks and measurable net gains for biodiversity. A strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure is to be supported through planning policies.

2.24 The Local Plan Review should seek to maximise any opportunities arising for local economies, communities and health as well as biodiversity. This should be inclusive of approaches which are supportive of enhancing the connectivity of green infrastructure and promoting the achievement of biodiversity net gain. The SA process should support the identification and maximisation of potential benefits through the consideration of alternatives and assessment of both negative and positive significant effects.

2.25 In relation to landscape, the NPPF includes sets the planning principles of recognising the intrinsic beauty and character of the countryside as well as protecting and enhancing valued landscapes. Reference is included with regards this purpose at National Parks, The Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

2.26 The Local Plan Review should be supportive of an approach to development which would protect the landscape character of North East Lincolnshire with particular consideration for the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Where appropriate it should also seek to protect the individual identities of North East Lincolnshire's settlements, with regard for the potential coalescence. The SA should identify those alternatives which contribute positively to landscape character, while avoiding the most significant impacts on the setting of the AONB.

2.27 The NPPF states that in relation to the historic environment plans should "set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic

environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats”. Where appropriate, plans should seek to sustain and enhance the significance of heritage assets and local character and distinctiveness, while viable uses of assets should be considered. Plans should take into account the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring. They should also consider the contribution the historic environment can make to the character of a place.

2.28 Although Local Plans can no longer require levels of the Code for Sustainable Homes, they can promote the Home Quality Mark to support residents in understanding the quality and performance of new build homes and can also set targets for developers to provide for a given percentage of energy used by a new development to come from on-site renewable or low carbon technologies. Revisions were made to the Building Regulations 2022 [\[See reference 14\]](#), setting minimum energy efficiency standards which are increasing the performance values of properties. From 15th June 2022, all new build homes are required to produce at least 31% less carbon emissions. Local Plan policies can further support the development of renewable energy technologies where appropriate, in line with climate change mitigation strategies and targets. The UK Green Building Council has produced a resource pack which is designed to help local authorities improve the sustainability of new homes. The New Homes Policy Playbook [\[See reference 15\]](#) sets out minimum requirements for sustainability in new homes that local authorities should introduce, as well as proposed stretching requirements should local authorities wish to go further. For non-residential uses BREEAM assessments can be used by local authorities to ensure buildings meet sustainability objectives.

2.29 The NPPF states that new and existing development should be prevented from contributing to, being put at an unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, pollutions including water pollution and air quality. Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided. Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account implications for water supply. Furthermore, strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision infrastructure for water supply and wastewater.

2.30 The Local Plan Review presents an opportunity to consider incorporating targets for water efficiency and the level of water consumption and grey water recycling in any new development. The Local Plan Review also can ensure that development is sited away from areas of high flood probability and that appropriate water drainage is in place in line with flood risk strategies. The SA process should seek to identify and address potential negative effects on the water environment, including implications relating to wastewater.

2.31 The NPPF states that planning system should protect and enhance soils in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or quality, while also encouraging the reuse of previously developed land.

2.32 The Local Plan Review can seek to ensure the appropriate protection of soil quality, including best and most versatile agricultural land. Further to this the Local Plan Review should ensure that new development does not conflict with current mineral operations as well as long-term mineral resource plans. The SA process should inform the development of the Local Plan Review by helping to identify alternatives which would avoid the areas of highest soil quality and best and most versatile agricultural land, as well as those which would promote the use of brownfield land.

2.33 The Local Plan Review can offer enhanced protection for designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings, including any potential archaeological finds in line with heritage protection and enhancement plans. The SA has a role to play by identifying which alternatives could offer opportunities to secure the protection and enhancement of assets as well as those which might have significant impacts in terms of their appropriate use and setting.

Economic Considerations

2.34 The Framework sets out that in terms of economic growth the role of the planning system is to contribute towards building a “strong, responsive and competitive economy” by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is

available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation. There is also a requirement for the planning system to identify and coordinate the provision of infrastructure. Furthermore, planning policies should address the specific locational requirements of different sectors.

2.35 Local planning authorities should incorporate planning policies which “support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation”. Local Plans are required to “set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration”.

2.36 The Local Plan Review should seek to maximise the potential benefits of nearby strategic growth, whilst at the same time ensuring the vitality and viability of smaller localised economies. Ensuring that local town centres and settlement services and facilities are maintained and enhanced is also important and will also provide support for local communities. The SA process can support the development of the Local Plan Review to ensure that its policies are considerate of impacts on the economy in North East Lincolnshire. The process can also be used to demonstrate that impacts on the viability of town centres in the area and surrounding areas have been considered.

2.37 The NPPF encourages local planning authorities to consider transport issues from the earliest stages of plan making so that: opportunities to promote sustainable transport are identified and pursued; the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified and assessed; and opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure and changing transport technology and usage are realised. The framework also states that the planning system should actively manage growth patterns in support of these objectives.

2.38 Growth will inevitably increase traffic on the roads which also has implications for air quality, and the Local Plan Review and SA process can seek to minimise effects of this nature through appropriately siting new development,

identifying where mitigation may be needed and requiring the necessary transport provisions and contributions from new development. The Local Plan Review, as supported by the SA, should seek to identify opportunities to maximise the potential for alternative modes of transport to the car and reduce the need to travel, therefore reducing emissions, through the consideration of alternatives and assessment of significant effects. This includes potential opportunities that may arise as a result of the delivery of new infrastructure.

Other National Policies, Plans and Programmes

2.39 Numerous other policies, plans and programmes at a national level are of relevance to preparation of the Local Plan Review and the SA. Unlike the NPPF, most of the documents are focussed on a specific topic area which the SA will consider. There will be some overlap between SA topics covered by these plans and programmes where those documents contain more overarching objectives. However, the plans and programmes considered of most relevance to the SA have been grouped by the topics they most directly seek to address, and green boxes below each topic heading summarise the implications of the national PPPs (including the NPPF) for the Local Plan Review and SA.

Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation, Energy Efficiency and Waste Minimisation

2.40 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- British Energy Security Strategy (2022)
- The Environment Act 2021
- The Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021)
- The Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy (2021)
- The Heat and Buildings Strategy (2021)
- The UK Hydrogen Strategy (2021)

Chapter 2 Relevant Plans and Programmes

- Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations 2021
- The Energy White Paper: Powering our net zero future (2020)
- Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (2020)
- Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management: Policy Statement (2020)
- The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (2020)
- The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
- The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and The Flood and Water Regulations 2019
- The National Adaptation Programme and the Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting: Making the country resilient to a changing climate (2018)
- Our Waste, Our Resources: A strategy for England (2018)
- UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017
- The Clean Growth Strategy (2017)
- National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) (2014)
- Waste Management Plan for England (2013)
- The Energy Efficiency Strategy: The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK (2012)
- The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy (2009)
- The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)
- Climate Change Act 2008
- Planning and Energy Act (2008)

Implications for the Local Plan Review and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure that new development is energy efficient and promotes the use of sustainable construction methods and materials, as well as reduce their carbon emissions. The Local Plan Review should also ensure that risk from all sources of flooding as a result of climate change is managed effectively and ensure that development is resilient to future flooding, as well as improve the transport network across the Plan area including by encouraging a modal shift towards public transport, walking and cycling, and reduce the need to travel by car.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to the mitigation of climate change and adaptation to climate change, sustainable construction, flooding and sustainable transport.

Health and Well-being

2.41 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- White Paper Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022)
- A fairer private rented sector White Paper (2022)
- National Design Guide (2021)
- Build Back Better: Our Plan for Health and Social Care (2021)
- COVID-19 Mental Health and Wellbeing Recovery Action Plan (2021)
- Using the planning system to promote healthy weight environments (2020) Addendum (2021)
- The Charter for Social Housing Residents: Social Housing White Paper (2020)
- Public Health England, PHE Strategy 2020-25

Chapter 2 Relevant Plans and Programmes

- Homes England Strategic Plan 2018 to 2023
- The Housing White Paper 2017 (Fixing our broken housing market)
- Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015)
- Technical Housing Standards – Nationally Described Space Standard (2015)
- Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change Report Ready for Ageing? (2013)
- Laying the foundations: housing strategy for England (2011)
- Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2010)
- Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England (2010)
- Environmental Noise Regulations 2006

Implications for the Local Plan Review and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure that the provision of open space and green infrastructure is of sufficient quantity and quality to meet the needs of the Plan area, encourage healthy and active lifestyles, creates fair, safe and inclusive communities, and improves the sustainable transport network within the Plan area.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to health and wellbeing, social inclusion, and sustainable transport.

Environment (biodiversity/geodiversity, landscape and soils)

2.42 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Establishing the Best Available Techniques for the UK (UK BAT) (2022)
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019
- A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (2018)
- Biodiversity offsetting in England Green Paper (2013)
- Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2010
- Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (2009)
- England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles (2008)
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
- National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

Implications for the Local Plan Review and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure that ecological features and biodiversity are managed, protected and enhanced and that opportunities for habitat restoration or creation are encouraged. The Local Plan Review should also help to ensure that environmental pollution is minimised in order to protect land and soils and ensure the efficient extraction of minerals. The Local Plan Review should also help to ensure that designated and valued landscapes are protected and enhanced, and that

development should be sympathetic to local character and history including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, air pollution, water quality, character of landscapes and townscapes, green infrastructure and contaminated land.

Historic Environment

2.43 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Historic England Corporate Plan 2022-23
- Heritage Statement 2017
- Sustainability Appraisal and Strategy Environmental Assessment: Historic England Advice Note 8 (2016)
- Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953

Implications for the Local Plan Review and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment, including heritage and cultural assets, and protect local character and distinctiveness.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to the historic environment and the character of landscapes and townscapes.

Water and Air

2.44 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Clean Air Strategy 2019
- Environmental Noise Regulations (2018)
- Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2018
- Water Environment Regulations 2017
- UK Plan for Tackling Roadside Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations (2017)
- Managing Water Abstraction (2016)
- Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016
- Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2015
- Water White Paper (2012)
- National Policy Statement for Waste Water (2012)
- Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010
- Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008)
- Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (2003)
- Environmental Protection Act 1990

Implications for the Local Plan Review and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to minimise the contamination of water and air as well as ensure the effective management of waste and water.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to air pollution, water quality and waste management.

Economic Growth

2.45 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- The Growth Plan 2022
- Build Back Better: Our Plan for Growth (2021)
- Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024
- Agriculture Act 2020
- UK Industrial Strategy: Building a Britain fit for the future (2018)
- LEP Network response to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper Consultation (2017)
- National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016-2021

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure the sustainable growth of income and employment as well as the enhancement of productivity and investment within the North East Lincolnshire economy.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to economic growth and employment.

Transport

2.46 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy Report to Parliament (2022)
- Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain (2021)
- Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (2020)
- The Road to Zero (2018)
- Transport Investment Strategy (2017)
- Highways England Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan (2017)
- Door to Door: A strategy for improving sustainable transport integration (2013)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan Review should help to ensure that more sustainable modes of transport are viable and encouraged in order to improve air quality, minimise climate change and reduce congestion. The Local Plan Review should also encourage walking and cycling as alternative modes of transport by providing safe and attractive walking and cycling infrastructure, as well as recognise the multiple benefits they bring in terms of physical and mental health, reducing carbon emissions and reducing air pollution.

The SA is able to respond to this through the inclusion of SA objectives relating to the mitigation of climate change, improving air quality, public health and wellbeing, and the provision of sustainable transport.

Sub National

2.47 Below the national level there are further plans and programmes which are of relevance for the Local Plan Review and SA process. These plans and programmes sit mostly at the sub-regional, county and district level. Details of those plans and programmes which are of most relevance at this level are provided in Appendix A.

Surrounding Development Plans

2.48 Development in North East Lincolnshire will not be delivered in isolation from those areas around it. Given the interconnection between North East Lincolnshire and the surrounding areas there is potential for cross-boundary and in-combination effects where development is proposed through development plans in neighbouring authorities. As such, a summary of the following plans for local authority areas which surround North East Lincolnshire is also provided in Appendix A:

- North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2011 (the new North Lincolnshire Local Plan was submitted in November 2022)
- Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2012-2036 (the new Central Lincolnshire Local Plan was submitted in March 2022)
- East Lindsey Local Plan Core Strategy 2018

Neighbourhood Plans

2.49 There are currently no designated Neighbourhood Forums or Neighbourhood Plans in preparation or adopted in North East Lincolnshire.

Chapter 3

Baseline Information

3.1 Baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely sustainability effects of a plan and helps to identify key sustainability issues and means of dealing with them.

3.2 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires information to be provided on:

- (2) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan;
- (3) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;
- (4) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 2009/147/EC [the 'Birds Directive'] and 92/43/EEC [the 'Habitats Directive'].

3.3 This section presents the relevant baseline information for North East Lincolnshire. Data referred to have been chosen primarily for regularity and consistency of collection, to enable trends in the baseline situation to be established, and also subsequent monitoring of potential sustainability effects.

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Climate Change

3.4 Climate change presents a global risk, with a range of different social, economic and environmental impacts that are likely to be felt within North East Lincolnshire across numerous receptors. A key challenge in protecting the environment will be to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change. The consequences include predictions of warmer, drier summers and wetter winters with more severe weather events all year as well resulting in higher sea levels and increased river flooding. A strong reaction is required from planning to ensure appropriate action can be taken to help species and habitats adapt and to enable the agricultural sector to continue to deliver diverse, affordable and good quality produce.

3.5 There has been a general trend towards warmer average temperatures in recent years with the most recent decade (2012-2021) being on average 0.2°C warmer than the 1991-2020 average and 1.0°C warmer than 1961-1990. All the top ten warmest years for the UK in the series from 1884 have occurred this century [See reference 16].

3.6 Heavy rainfall and flooding events have been demonstrated to have increased potential to occur in the UK as the climate has generally become wetter. For example, for the most recent decade (2012-2021) UK summers have been on average 6% wetter than 1991-2020 and 15% wetter than 1961-1990 whilst winters have been 10%/26% wetter [See reference 17].

3.7 The 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) identified a reduced timeframe to act to keep world temperatures rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius before 2050 in line with the Paris Agreement [See reference 18].

3.8 The Tyndall Centre has undertaken work to calculate the ‘fair’ contribution of local authorities towards the Paris Climate Change Agreement. Based on the analysis undertaken the following recommendations have been made for North East Lincolnshire [\[See reference 19\]](#):

- Stay within a maximum cumulative carbon dioxide emissions budget of 7.4 million tonnes (MtCO₂) for the period of 2020 to 2100. At 2017 CO₂ emission levels, North East Lincolnshire would use this entire budget within 6 years from 2020.
- Initiate an immediate programme of CO₂ mitigation to deliver cuts in emissions averaging a minimum of -13.9% per year to deliver a Paris aligned carbon budget. These annual reductions in emissions require national and local action and could be part of a wider collaboration with other local authorities.
- Reach zero or near zero carbon no later than 2040. This report provides an indicative CO₂ reduction pathway that stays within the recommended maximum carbon budget of 7.4 MtCO₂. At 2040 5% of the budget remains. This represents very low levels of residual CO₂ emissions by this time, or the Authority may opt to forgo these residual emissions and cut emissions to zero at this point. Earlier years for reaching zero CO₂ emissions are also within the recommended budget, provided that interim budgets with lower cumulative CO₂ emissions are also adopted.

3.9 In light of the IPCC work, North East Lincolnshire Council declared a Climate Emergency in September 2019. The declaration commits the Council to cutting its carbon emissions to net zero by 2040 and to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Council’s Carbon Roadmap (2021) outlines the measures for the district to move to a green and sustainable future in line with global and national targets and efforts [\[See reference 20\]](#).

3.10 North East Lincolnshire Council has a strong track record on its policy driven approach to Climate Change. In 2000 it became a signatory to the Nottingham Declaration, and since, the Council has formally signed the Climate Local declaration. This superseded the Nottingham Declaration, seeking to enhance the area’s aspirations to become the renewable energy capital of the UK [\[See reference 21\]](#).

Carbon Dioxide Emissions

3.11 In recent years, in line with the UK as a whole, Yorkshire and the Humber has seen a decrease in carbon dioxide emissions. One of the main drivers for reduced levels of emissions has been a decrease in the use of coal for electricity generation.

3.12 The Government regularly publishes Local Authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics. Emissions for North East Lincolnshire between 2005-2020 have fallen from 12.8t per capita to 7.3t per capita [See reference 22]. Per capita emissions in the plan area within the scope of influence of the local authorities fell most years between 2005 and 2020 as shown in Table 3.1. It should be noted the figures in Table 3.1 do not account for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) figures in North East Lincolnshire. In 2020, LULUCF accounted for -0.8Kt carbon dioxide emissions in North East Lincolnshire.

Table 3.1: Carbon dioxide emissions estimates in North East Lincolnshire 2005-2020 [See reference 23]

Year	Total Emissions (kt)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2005	2,030.2	12.8
2006	1,941.9	12.2
2007	1,807.5	11.4
2008	1765.3	11.1
2009	1,559.1	9.8
2010	1,650.5	10.4
2011	1,483.2	9.3
2012	1,549.3	9.7
2013	1,502.5	9.4

Year	Total Emissions (kt)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2014	1,398.7	8.7
2015	1,238.9	7.7
2016	1,270.5	7.9
2017	1,240.6	7.8
2018	1,302.7	8.2
2019	1,178.9	7.4
2020	1,158.4	7.3

3.13 In Yorkshire and the Humber, carbon dioxide emissions have fallen from 10.5t per capita to 5.7t per capita (equivalent to a 45% reduction) from 2005 to 2020. Emissions for North East Lincolnshire have stayed higher than the wider Yorkshire and the Humber levels for this period, falling from 12.8t per capita to 7.3t per capita (equivalent to a 42% reduction) over the same period.

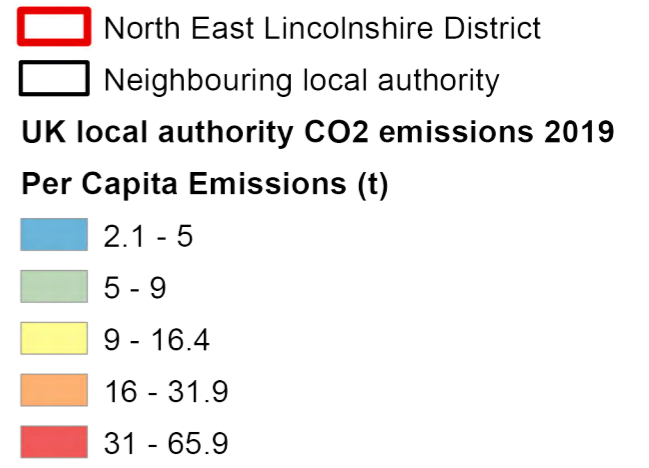
3.14 In Yorkshire and the Humber and North East Lincolnshire the main contributor of emissions was from industrial sources. However, between 2005 and 2020, the levels of emissions from industry have dropped significantly for Yorkshire and Humber and North East Lincolnshire, with a 47% and 41% decrease respectively. This is shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Changes in carbon dioxide emissions by sector for the region and District between 2005 and 2020

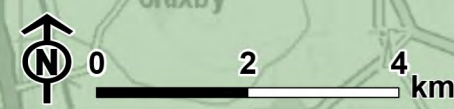
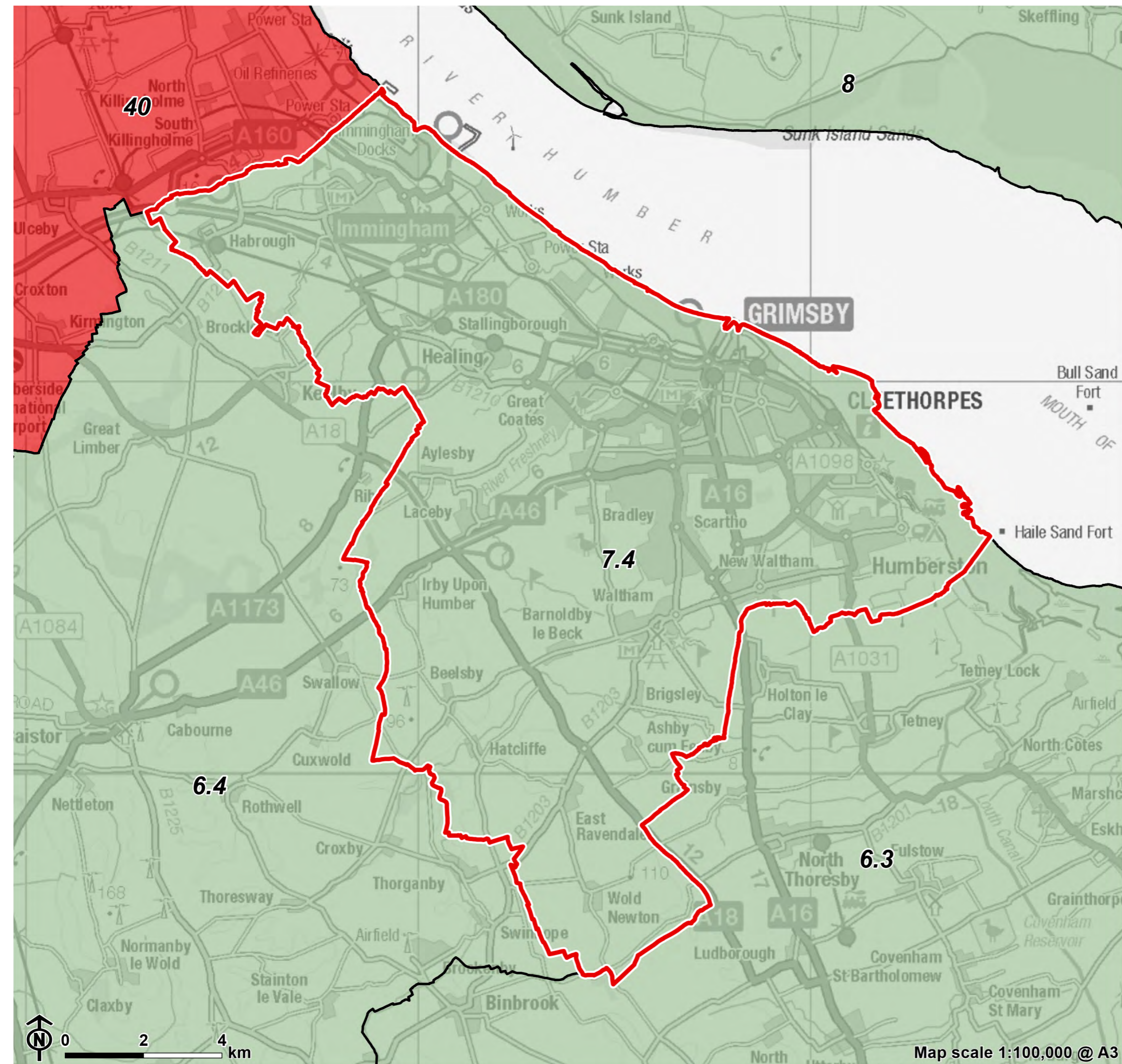
Source of Emissions	Yorkshire and the Humber region – 2005	Yorkshire and the Humber region – 2020	North East Lincolnshire – 2005	North East Lincolnshire – 2020
Industry	20,647.3	10,908.9	1,073.2	625.5
Commercial	5,197.6	1,948.8	227.8	50.7
Public Sector	2,109.6	876.8	92.7	22.7
Domestic	13,217.2	7,666.2	385.7	226.4
Transport	11,765.4	9,548.5	248.2	228.8
Grand Total	53,410.5	30,949.2	2,030.2	1,158.4

3.15 Figure 3.1 overleaf shows the per capita CO₂ emissions of North East Lincolnshire compared to neighbouring authorities. It is evident that CO₂ emissions per capita are higher in North East Lincolnshire compared to neighbouring authorities, apart from North Lincolnshire which has significantly higher emissions.

Figure 3.1: Per Capita CO2 Emissions Compared to Neighbouring Authorities



Note: Label refers to per capita emissions (in tonnes) for a local authority.



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Overall Energy Consumption

3.1 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy produced the following consumption figures for North East Lincolnshire in 2019 [See reference 24]:

- All fuels – A total of 369.3Ktoe across domestic, transport and industrial and commercial use.
- Coal – A total of 4.1Ktoe predominantly through industrial and commercial use.
- Manufactured fuels – A total of 20.4Ktoe through domestic and industrial and commercial use.
- Petroleum – A total of 86.9Ktoe predominantly from road transport.
- Gas – A total of 179.7Ktoe predominantly through domestic use.
- Electricity – A total of 70Ktoe through domestic and industrial and commercial use.
- Bioenergy and wastes – A total of 8.1Ktoe predominantly through industrial and commercial use.

3.2 The changes in consumption by energy type for North East Lincolnshire are shown in Table 3.3. With the exception of energy from biomass and wastes, manufactured fuels and coal, the consumption of petroleum, gas and electricity fell between 2005 and 2019.

Table 3.3: Energy consumption in North East Lincolnshire by type

Energy Type	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2005)	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2019)
Coal	2.1	4.1
Manufactured Fuels	15.7	20.4
Petroleum	109.9	86.9
Gas	351.6	179.7
Electricity	82.2	70
Bioenergy and Wastes	1.6	8.1
Total	563.1	369.3

Renewable Energy

3.3 Already employing over 12,000 people in Greater Lincolnshire, there are major opportunities for growth in offshore wind as well as in the development of other low carbon goods and services. Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is collaborating with partner LEPs (Humber and New Anglia, both centres of offshore renewable excellence) to support delivery of offshore wind [\[See reference 25\]](#).

3.4 The Humber Estuary is fundamentally connected with at least 25% of the UK’s energy production. The south bank of the Humber lies at the centre of an emerging offshore wind market, with the potential to create new supply chains. It will become the biggest Enterprise Zone in the UK and will position the area as one of the major hubs for the renewables sector in the UK.

3.5 These developments will further unlock the economic potential of the Humber estuary and help to stimulate growth in North Lincolnshire. Proposed developments such as the Humber Zero Carbon Capture Project, green

hydrogen production being advanced on the Humber and the Killingholme Marshes Drainage Scheme will significantly increase demand for skilled engineers to support both construction and manufacturing, requiring employers to up-skill their existing workforce to meet evolving industry training standards.

3.6 Grimsby is on course to hit almost 8GW of installed capacity in offshore wind in the coming years. The recent proposal of the Race Bank Extension, which would double the size of Grimsby's largest off-shore wind farm and achieve a level that would meet the equivalent of London's peak demand, could place Grimsby responsible for well over a third of the 30GW envisaged for the UK by 2030 [See reference 26].

Air Quality

3.7 Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts. It is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children, the elderly, and those with existing heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues because areas with poor air quality are also often less affluent areas.

3.8 North East Lincolnshire Council produces an annual report outlining the air quality monitoring which has taken place and potential impacts to air quality not currently being monitored. The monitoring of air quality focuses on nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter (dust) and sulphur dioxide.

3.9 During 2021, there was an increase in the annual mean NO₂ recorded at every diffusion tube site and all automatic monitoring stations when compared to 2020. This is likely reflective of the increased travel activity in 2021 compared to 2020 when there were more COVID-19 restrictions in place. However, all of the reported concentrations continued to be below the NO₂ annual mean Air Quality Standard (AQS) objective (40 µg/m³). Therefore, although the overall concentration of NO₂ had increased from the previous reporting year, the AQS objective was still not exceeded. The maximum NO₂ annual mean concentration

was recorded at the 112 Cleethorpe Road diffusion tube site co-located with the automatic monitor within the AQMA at $39.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, whilst the maximum NO_2 annual mean concentration outside of the AQMA was $35.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (site NEL 18). At the three automatic monitoring stations, annual mean NO_2 concentrations of $12.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (Immingham Woodlands Avenue), $33.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (Cleethorpes Road) and $29.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (Peaks Parkway) were recorded in 2021. During 2021, the annual mean and hourly objective for NO_2 was not exceeded at any site [See reference 27].

Air Quality Management Areas

3.10 There is an obligation on all local authorities under Part IV of the 1995 Environment Act to review regularly and assess air quality in their areas and to determine whether or not national air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where exceedances are considered likely, the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of required air quality improvements.

3.11 There is one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) within North East Lincolnshire, in Grimsby. Grimsby AQMA was declared in 2010 at Cleethorpe Road for exceeding annual mean objectives for NO_2 in both 2008 and 2009. Following this declaration, the Council established an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for the AQMA. As the primary source of the pollution in the AQMA is from road traffic, the AQAP considers various traffic-related measures to deliver improvements to air quality [See reference 28].

3.12 In 2021, no exceedances of the NO_2 annual mean objective were identified within the Grimsby AQMA, continuing the trend observed since 2018 [See reference 29].

3.13 Previously, Immingham AQMA was declared in 2006 at the junction of Kings Road and Pelham Road due to PM_{10} (particulate matter) exceedances,

however this was revoked by the Council in 2016 following a downward trend in PM₁₀ concentrations in the area.

3.14 In conjunction with the Government's Clean Air Strategy (2019) and encouragement from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to implement local Air Quality Strategies, in 2021 the Council launched the North East Lincolnshire Council Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026. This strategy recognises air pollution as a major public health risk, and focuses on seven broad topics which set out the areas where the Council can influence a reduction in air pollution within the district [\[See reference 30\]](#):

- **Transport:** Working towards a cleaner, less polluting transport network that both supports sustainable transport modes (walking, cycling, car share and public transport) and makes maximum use of existing resources through effective highways and transport planning.
- **Public Health:** Encouragement of wider behavioural changes in the local population with respect to their travel choices, raise awareness and educate members of the public on the health impact of air pollution.
- **Planning and Infrastructure:** Be involved in the planning decision making process as early as is practicable to mitigate potential air quality impacts and support environmentally sustainable development in North East Lincolnshire.
- **Strategies and Policy Guidance:** Working with other departments and stakeholders to direct the use of legislation and targeted enforcement to control air pollution.
- **Air Quality Monitoring:** The collation of air quality monitoring data will identify pollution hotspots enabling interventions and improvement to be made in those areas of concern.
- **Raise Public Awareness:** Encouraging the local community to become involved in improving air quality and take actions to reduce their contributions to local air quality emissions.
- **Funding Air Quality Improvements:** To give long term commitment to fund air quality improvements within the borough.

Population, Health and Well-being

Population

3.15 Geographically, North East Lincolnshire is a relatively small area, covering 74 square miles (192km²) on the east coast of England, at the mouth of the Humber Estuary in the Yorkshire and the Humber region.

3.16 The population of North East Lincolnshire was 156,966 in 2021 compared to the 2011 census, when 159,616 people lived in the plan area. By 2043, the population is predicted to grow to 158,811 [See reference 31].

3.17 The number of households in North East Lincolnshire was 69,826 in 2021. This is comprised of primarily single-family households (63.1%), one person households (32.5%) and 'other' household types (4.4%). Of the one person households, 14% of these households have someone aged 66 and over. By 2043, there is expected to be 74,310 households [See reference 32]. It should be noted that households do not have the same definition as homes. Households are defined by Office for National Statistics (ONS) as one person or a group of people who have the (same) accommodation as their only or main residence. For groups the individuals in question should share at least one meal a day, or share the living accommodation, that is, a living room or sitting room.

3.18 The population of North East Lincolnshire is spread across the following spatial areas defined in the current adopted local plan and outlined below [See reference 33]:

- Estuary Zone – Consisting of mainly low-lying land, bordering and including the South Humber Bank, the Estuary Zone is an area of both ecological and industrial importance, giving rise to some particularly complex environmental planning issues and challenges, particularly associated with the Humber Estuary's international designations. It includes the nationally important port, and town of Immingham and accommodates a major concentration of port-related and energy-related

industry and commerce: these and the estuary itself are the main influences on the character, appearance and form of this part of North East Lincolnshire.

- **Urban Area** – The Urban Area includes the port and town of Grimsby and the resort of Cleethorpes, two distinct and distinctive towns forming a continuous built-up area that extends along the estuary and coast for approximately 12km, and about 4km (average) inland. More than three-quarters of North East Lincolnshire’s population lives in the Urban Area. The townscape is varied, including Grimsby’s docks and town centre, the sea front and seaside town at Cleethorpes all of which include buildings and places of significant heritage value together with large residential suburbs (some built by private enterprise, some by the Council and other social housing providers) which have developed successively since the Victorian era and continue to grow. Grimsby has some diverse inner urban areas including places where housing, commerce and industry are mixed; areas of older, terraced houses; areas of more recent low-rise social and private housing; and larger houses and villas from the Victorian and Edwardian periods.
- **Western and Southern Arc** – Wrapping around the western and southern edges of the Urban Area, and only slightly detached from it is an ‘arc’ of smaller settlements that have expanded to accommodate, at present, about 15% of the North East Lincolnshire’s population. Some of these are villages that have grown but retain their older village cores (Waltham and Laceby); others are more recent suburban settlements with little remnant of an older village core (Humberston, New Waltham and Healing).
- **Rural Area** – The largest of the Spatial Zones by area, the Rural one is the smallest by population. It is characterised by an attractive rural landscape of open fields, farms and woodlands, rising rolling hills into the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB in the south of North East Lincolnshire. There are several small villages and hamlets within this Zone, together providing homes for about 2% of North East Lincolnshire’s population.

3.19 Across these spatial zones lie 15 wards and 18 settlements.

3.20 Wards located in the North East Lincolnshire’s Urban Area are home to the largest percentage of the population, including those surrounding Grimsby and Cleethorpes. Population density is markedly higher in these areas than the rural areas. Table 3.4 below presents the most recent estimates of population by ward in North East Lincolnshire as of 2020.

Table 3.4: Estimated populations by ward in North East Lincolnshire Council for 2020 [See reference 34]

Ward	Estimated Population (as of 2020)
Croft Baker	11,481
East Marsh	11,467
Freshney	9,326
Haverstoe	9,668
Heneage	11,904
Humberson and New Waltham	11,385
Immingham	11,728
Park	11,793
Scartho	11,433
Sidney Sussex	12,508
South	12,757
Waltham	6,789
West Marsh	7,848
Wolds	7,700
Yarborough	11,557

Housing

3.21 In 2021, it was estimated by the Office for National Statistics that full-time employees could typically expect to spend around 9.1 times their workplace-based annual earnings on purchasing a home in England. This is a statistically significant increase compared with 2020, when it was 7.9 times their workplace-based annual earnings. Average house prices have increased by 14%, while average earnings fell by nearly 1%. This has led to housing becoming less affordable [\[See reference 35\]](#).

3.22 At the local level, housing affordability worsened in 300 out of 331 (91%) local authorities. Average house prices increased in 96% of local authority districts in England and Wales, while average earnings increased in only 50% of local authorities. In North East Lincolnshire, the housing affordability ratio was 5.16 in 2021, and like other local authorities, has steadily increased. Whilst this figure has increased by 98% since 2002, it remains lower than the average ratio for both England on a national level (8.96), and Yorkshire and the Humber on a regional level (6.37) [\[See reference 36\]](#).

3.23 The average house price for a property in North East Lincolnshire as of October 2022 was £159,052, which in comparison to the regional average (Yorkshire and the Humber – £214,036) and the national average (England – £296,422) is significantly lower [\[See reference 37\]](#).

3.24 The 2013 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) projects growth of 5,490 households (290 per annum) between 2011 and 2028. The employment growth projection in the SHMA for 2011-2030 is 1,300 new jobs (70 per annum), and assuming the addition of these 1,300 new jobs, the projected growth in households during the same period would be 9,375 households (495 per annum). These projections have clear implications for the need to deliver an appropriate quantity and range of new homes to accommodate the growing population. A new Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) has been commissioned as part of the Local Plan Review which will provide an update to these projections. This is particularly important in light of the fact that housing delivery in recent years has

not taken place at the required rate, and it is important that the existing situation of under-delivery does not continue [See reference 38].

3.25 A total of 2,301 dwellings have been built since the start date of the adopted Local Plan (1st April 2013) as shown in Table 3.5 (below). This results in an undersupply of 1,027 dwellings.

Table 3.5: Undersupply of homes in North East Lincolnshire from 2013-2021 [See reference 39]

Year	Annual Requirement	Annual Net Completions	Shortfall
2013-2014	397	314	83
2014-2015	397	366	31
2015-2016	397	357	40
2016-2017	397	276	121
2017-2018	397	186	211
2018-2019	488	431	57
2019-2020	488	248	240
2020-2021	488	244	244
Total	3,449	2,422	1,027

3.26 Table 3.6 below sets out the annual breakdown for the years covered by the Five Year Housing Land Supply Assessment, resulting in a basic five-year land supply requirement of 2,923 dwellings.

Table 3.6: Five-year housing requirement in North East Lincolnshire from 2021-22 to 2025-26 [See reference 40]

Year	Annual Requirement
2021-2022	488
2022-2023	488
2023-2024	649
2024-2025	649
2025-2026	649
Total	2,923

3.27 Table 3.7 below presents the net additions for North East Lincolnshire between 2010 to 2021 in terms of housing stock. The ‘net additional dwellings’ is the primary and most comprehensive measure of housing supply. The net additional dwellings present estimates of changes in the size of dwelling stock due to new house building completions, conversions, changes of use, demolitions and other changes to the dwelling stock. The net additional dwelling figures are based on local authority estimates of gains and losses of dwellings during each year.

Table 3.7: Net additions for North East Lincolnshire

Year	Dwellings
2010-2011	269
2011-2012	287
2012-2013	405
2013-2014	314
2014-2015	366
2015-2016	357

Year	Dwellings
2016-2017	276
2018-2019	186
2019-2020	248
2020-2021	244

3.28 The latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment in 2013 found that since the economic downturn, development trends have shown a preference for family sized housing. This is reflected in data about household structures which shows ‘relatively healthy’ growth in family households. As well as continuing to cater for this market, demand from an increasing number of single person households and from a generally aging population will also need to be met.

3.29 Since 2001, the most significant growth in new housing in North East Lincolnshire has been in detached dwellings and flats – both have increased by 10%. This trend differs to regional and national trends, where flats have seen the greatest increase in volume through new development, by a considerable proportion.

3.30 As of 2021, there were a total of 73,920 domestic properties within North East Lincolnshire. In terms of housing type, North East Lincolnshire has more terraced houses (35%) than the regional (29%) and national averages (26%) and has a lower than average proportion of flats (12%) and detached houses (13%) - this is particularly the case in Grimsby and Immingham. Long-term housing vacancy is an important issue facing North East Lincolnshire. Vacant dwellings are defined as empty properties as classified for council tax purposes and include all empty properties liable for council tax and properties that are empty but receive a council tax exemption. In 2021, there were 1,348 long-term vacant dwellings in North East Lincolnshire (e.g. for more than six months). This equates to 1.6% of dwellings in North East Lincolnshire which is slightly higher than the Yorkshire and The Humber region at 1.4% but lower than the national figure of 2% of all dwellings [See reference 41].

3.31 The condition of North East Lincolnshire’s housing stock is a concern, with around 42% of homes in the private rented sector being classed as ‘non-decent’ as of 2013. People at highest risk of living in a non-decent house are young people, old people, disabled people, and people on benefits. 32% of private sector dwellings were classed as non-decent, in comparison with a national average of 29% [\[See reference 42\]](#).

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

3.32 During the 2021 Census, 0.1% of the people of North East Lincolnshire describe themselves as White: Roma. The majority of the Roma population live within the Grimsby area [\[See reference 43\]](#). The 2021 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (which supersedes the 2008 assessment) found that there are five Gypsy or Traveller households in North East Lincolnshire that meet the planning definition. However, given that there are a number of vacant pitches at two sites, there is no identified need for pitches for households who meet the planning definition. Additionally, the assessment determined that there is no need for pitches for households who did not meet the planning definition. There are no Travelling Showpeople identified in the area, therefore there is no current or future identified need for additional plots. There is no current need for a formal public transit site due to low historic numbers of unauthorised encampments. Overall, the assessment found that there is no need for pitches up to the period 2035 in North East Lincolnshire [\[See reference 44\]](#).

Health

3.33 Health is a cross-cutting topic and as such many topic areas explored in this Scoping Report influence health either directly or indirectly.

3.34 As part of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, particularly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a Health and Wellbeing Report was published by North East Lincolnshire Council in 2021. This identified key emerging issues and ongoing solutions in the district [\[See reference 45\]](#).

3.35 Emerging Issues:

- A&E attendances have been increasing back up to pre-COVID levels and have now exceeded numbers (as of May 2021).
- There has been an increase in demand and acuteness across all mental health services. There has been an increase in post-natal depression and feelings of loneliness in new mums. For young people there has been an increase in anxiety, OCD and eating disorders. Stress, anxiety and uncertainty has increased in adults and for older people. Locally there has been an increased number of suicides during 2020.
- School based vaccination programmes have been impacted the most, seeing a decrease in HPV vaccine coverage, while other childhood vaccination programmes have been able to catch up. Screening programmes which were paused in the first lockdown could have a long-term impact on early detection of cancers.
- Some adults have increased smoking to cope with stress, anxiety and boredom in lockdowns, so children who live in households with a smoker may have been exposed to more second-hand smoke.
- There is emerging evidence of increased alcohol related problems with insight from Grimsby Hospital that it is currently seeing more people with complex alcohol issues.
- Access to contraception has been more difficult as services have moved online. However, there is no evidence as yet that unwanted pregnancies or STIs have increased.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has not just created health inequalities but has exposed and exacerbated longstanding inequalities affecting BAME groups in the UK.

3.36 Ongoing Solutions:

- New triage services put in place during COVID-19 have received widely positive feedback from patients. Patients highlighted how they liked the additional privacy that came from being able to take these calls from home and felt safer limiting contact and reducing travel by only visiting COVID

secure surgeries when absolutely necessary. However, patients' preferred way to see a health professional was still face to-face.

- The COVID-19 vaccine uptake in North East Lincolnshire has been good, however, there has been a significantly lower uptake of the vaccine in the most deprived residents and in those from BAME groups.
- Ongoing support and research is being invested into patients affected by long COVID. The main symptoms reported are mental health problems, fatigue and headaches. In those admitted to hospital or intensive care symptoms may be more severe with a third being readmitted to hospital and a similar proportion going on to be diagnosed with a respiratory condition.

Life Expectancy

3.37 Life expectancy at birth in 2021 in North East Lincolnshire was 77.6 years for males and 82.2 years for females, which is slightly lower than the regional average values of 78.7years and 82.4years, respectively. Life expectancy is 13.1 years lower for men and 9.1 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of North East Lincolnshire than in the least deprived areas **[See reference 46]**.

Obesity and Physical Activity Levels

3.38 Being overweight or obese carries numerous health risks, including increased likelihood of type 2 diabetes, cancer, heart and liver disease, stroke and related mental health conditions. It is estimated this health issue places a cost of at least £5.1 billion on the NHS and tens of billions on the wider UK society every year.

3.39 An estimated 67.6% of people in North East Lincolnshire were obese or overweight in 2020/21. This was higher than the regional average (66.5%) and national average (63.5%) **[See reference 47]**.

3.40 On average, 64% of adults were physically active in 2020/21 in North East Lincolnshire. The figure is based on the number of respondents aged 19 and over, with valid responses to questions on physical activity, doing at least 150 moderate intensity equivalent (MIE) minutes physical activity per week in bouts of 10 minutes or more in the previous 28 days [See reference 48]. In relation to children and young people, 46.4% were physically active in 2020/21 [See reference 49].

3.41 Around 20.4% of people were recorded as doing no physical activity at all, whilst 11% participated in light activity in 2020/21. This was higher than the national average of 16.8% people recorded as doing no physical activity and 9.1% performing light exercise only [See reference 50].

3.42 The UK Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food, DEFRA 2002 recommends an increase consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables to benefit the local economy and health. In North East Lincolnshire, around 48.9% of adults were meeting the recommended 5-a-day in 2019/20 [See reference 51].

Perception of Well-being

3.43 Residents of North East Lincolnshire reported having lower levels of life satisfaction (7.38 out of 10.00) than the average for UK (7.55) in the 2021/22 period. Whilst average figures recorded relating to 'feeling the things done in life are worthwhile' were higher than the UK (7.90 and 7.77, respectively) 'happiness' in North East Lincolnshire was marginally lower (at 7.54 and 7.56, respectively). Levels of high anxiety recorded for North East Lincolnshire were 25.7% in this period. This was an increase of 5.73% from the previous period (2019/20) and may be attributed to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The percentage of self-reported high anxiety was slightly higher than the regional average (24.9%) and the England average (24.2%) in the 2021/22 period [See reference 52].

Open Space

3.44 Good quality open spaces can make a significant contribution towards healthy living. Green spaces have a positive effect on the health of the population helping to reduce stress, provide formal and informal opportunities for physical activity, sport and play and provide environments for relaxation. Regular physical activity contributes to the prevention and management of over 20 conditions including coronary heart disease, diabetes, stress and depression and certain types of cancer and obesity [\[See reference 53\]](#).

3.45 The Green Spaces Strategy 2016 – 2021 identifies a wide collection of parks, woodlands, biodiversity sites and play areas in local neighbourhoods. North East Lincolnshire includes over 40km² of land in the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). A population of 157,300 people (2001-2010 ONS population estimates) are in a position to access over 60 parks and open spaces situated in residential sites [\[See reference 54\]](#).

3.46 Table 3.8 below identifies the current provision of green space in North East Lincolnshire.

Table 3.8: Current provision of green space in North East Lincolnshire [\[See reference 55\]](#)

Category	Quantity
Equipped play areas	45
Multi-use games areas	7
Skate parks	3
BMX tracks	3
Youth shelters	8
Bowling greens	8

Category	Quantity
Tennis courts	7

3.47 Although some parts of North East Lincolnshire perform well against national figures in terms of general health, there are pockets of North East Lincolnshire with a significant proportion of residents suffering from poor health. To help tackle these issues and achieve better health and wellbeing for North East Lincolnshire, it is the important to ensure easier access to open spaces in these areas, and for those groups that find it difficult to access or use open space.

3.48 There are six parks in North East Lincolnshire that have received Green Flag Awards, which recognises high environmental standards and excellence in recreational green areas. The six parks are Cleethorpes Country Park, Grimsby Crematorium, Haverstoe Park, People’s Park (Registered Park and Garden), Seafront Gardens, and Weelsby Woods.

Deprivation

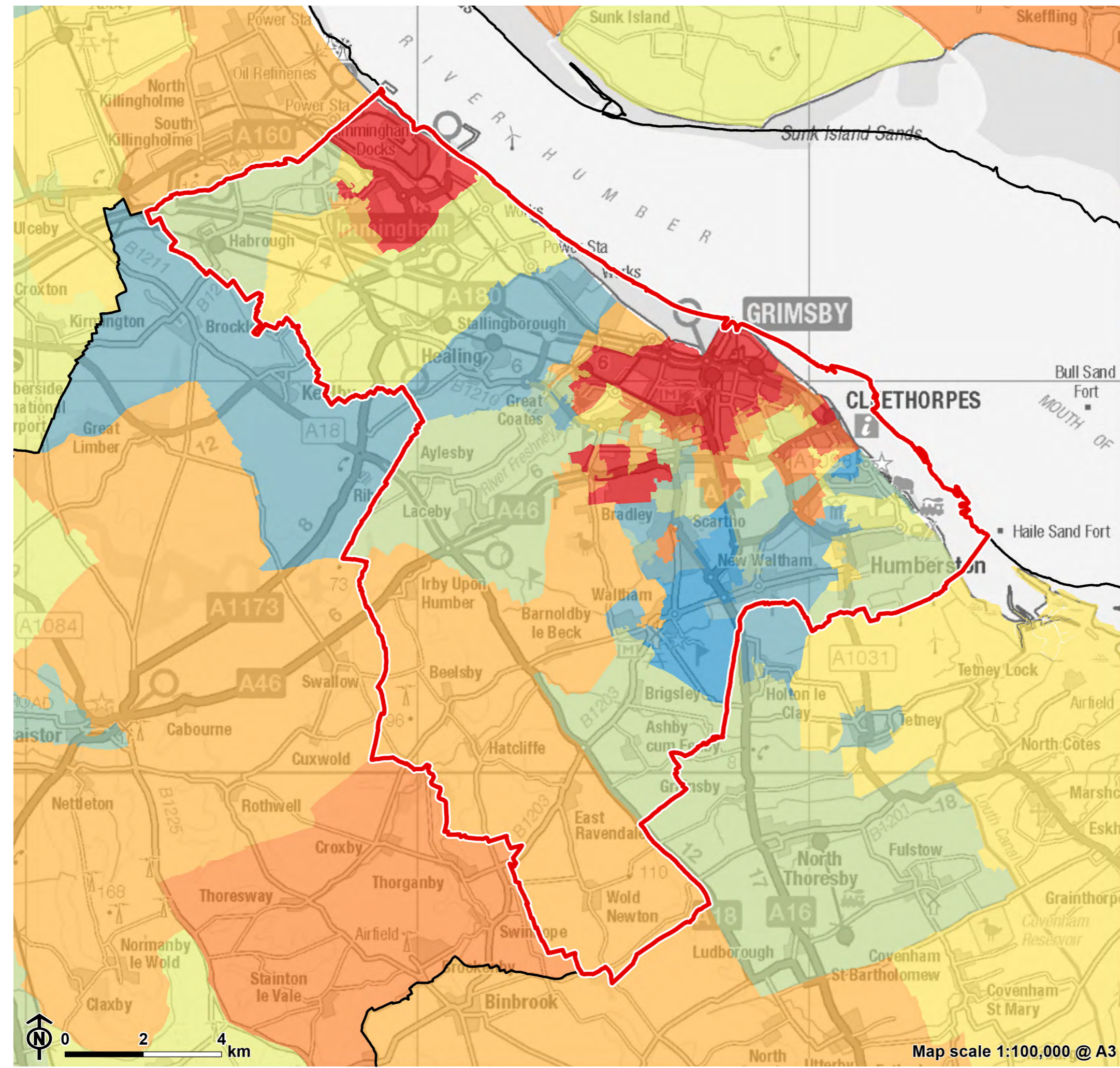
3.49 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) uses Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA) to measure deprivation at local authority and county level. The seven distinct domains of deprivation (Income; Employment; Health Deprivation and Disability: Education and Skills Training; Crime: Barriers to Housing and Services: and Living Environment) which when weighted and combined from the IMD 2019 have been mapped for the District.

3.50 In 2019, 30.2% of LSOAs in North east Lincolnshire fell within the 10% most deprived areas in relation to the Index of Multiple Deprivation. North East Lincolnshire performs less favourably in relation to income, living environment, crime, health deprivation, employment and education, skills and training. North East Lincolnshire performs well in relation to barriers to housing and services which considers the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services with 32.1% of LSOAs falling within in the 10% least deprived.

3.51 Roughly 17.8% of households within North East Lincolnshire live in fuel poverty which is above the national average of 13.2%. Fuel poverty is measured based on required energy bills rather than actual spending. This ensures that households that have low energy bills simply because they actively limit their use of energy at home, for example by not heating their home, are not overlooked **[See reference 56]**.

3.52 Figure 3.2 displays the variations in deprivation across North East Lincolnshire.

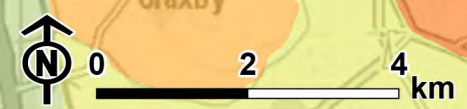
Figure 3.2: Indices of Multiple Deprivation



North East Lincolnshire District
 Neighbouring local authority

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019

- 0 - 10% (most deprived)
- 10 - 20%
- 20 - 30%
- 30 - 40%
- 40 - 50%
- 50 - 60%
- 60 - 70%
- 70 - 80%
- 80 - 90%
- 90 - 100% (least deprived)



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Crime and Safety

3.53 The absence of a safe and secure place in which to live can have an extremely negative impact on physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

3.54 Between September 2021 and August 2022, 12,841 crimes were counted in North East Lincolnshire. North East Lincolnshire saw a drop in crime rates per 1,000 since May 2021 where rates were 116.5 per 1,000 to 80.5 per 1,000 in August 2022. When considering crime by type, violence and sexual offences and violent crime remain the highest type of crime at 37% and 19% of all crime respectively [\[See reference 57\]](#).

Economy

3.55 Nationally, employment rates continued to increase during 2019 and 2020. However, North East Lincolnshire's employment rate consistently remained below the national average. North East Lincolnshire's employment rate for January to December 2020 was 76.3%, lower than the regional Yorkshire and Humber rate (78.1%) and the national rate (79.1%). In April 2020 and May 2020 there were significant increases in the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits in North East Lincolnshire (and nationally) as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. Unemployment claimants decreased slightly in October 2020 and November 2020; however the claimant count is still significantly higher when compared to the figures from the previous year [\[See reference 58\]](#).

3.56 In 2019, the total output (Gross Value Added, GVA) in North East Lincolnshire reached £3.161 million. The trend in GVA has been steadily increasing over the years for North East Lincolnshire [\[See reference 59\]](#).

3.57 The median annual pay in 2021 in North East Lincolnshire was £32,290 for male full time workers and £20,923 for female full time workers which is lower

than the median annual pay in England, £33,777 for males and £28,314 for females [\[See reference 60\]](#).

3.58 As of June 2022, 75.8% of people in North East Lincolnshire were economically active. Across the Yorkshire and The Humber region this figure is higher at 77.8% within the same period. 3.9% of males and 1.6% of females in North East Lincolnshire are unemployed, while the unemployment rate for the UK was 3.6%. As of November 2022, 19,013 people between age 16-65 were on universal credit. This equates to 20% of people aged 16-65 in North East Lincolnshire. The number of claimants is higher than the regional and national figures at 15.1% and 14.2% respectively [\[See reference 61\]](#).

3.59 Official Labour Market Statistics data presented in Table 3.9 below show that most employees in North East Lincolnshire work in the human health and social work, wholesale and retail trade, and manufacturing industries which is similar to the regional and national trends. However, there is a lower-than-average percentage employed in the financial and business sectors, and a higher percentage employed in manufacturing and transport and communications when compared to regional and national averages [\[See reference 62\]](#).

Table 3.9: Employee jobs in North East Lincolnshire in relation to regional and national averages (2021)

Employee Jobs by Industry	North East Lincolnshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	Great Britain
Mining and quarrying	0%	0.1%	0.1%
Manufacturing	15.9%	11.8%	7.6%
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%

Employee Jobs by Industry	North East Lincolnshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	Great Britain
Construction	3.6%	4.6%	4.9%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	14.5%	13.6%	14.4%
Transportation and storage	10.1%	5.6%	5.1%
Accommodation and food service activities	7.2%	7.1%	7.5%
Information and communication	0.9%	3.1%	4.5%
Financial and insurance activities	0.9%	2.7%	3.6%
Real estate activities	1.3%	1.5%	1.8%
Professional, scientific and technical, activities	4.3%	6.4%	8.9%
Administrative and support service activities	6.5%	8.9%	8.9%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1.8%	4.7%	4.6%
Education	8.7%	9.7%	8.8%
Human health and social work activities	18.8%	14.8%	13.7%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.4%	2.1%	2.3%
Other service activities	2.2%	2.0%	1.9%

3.60 Significant industries in North East Lincolnshire include food and seafood manufacturing, chemical processing, and vehicle handling. Grimsby’s convenient location in terms of proximity to offshore wind farms in the North Sea has had a positive impact on the local economy as Grimsby is becoming established as a key location for operations and maintenance facilities to service these wind farms [See reference 63]. As of 2020, there were 5,270 active enterprises with 690 new enterprises in 2020. 92% of businesses have a

survival rate of one year with 42% of businesses expected to survive five years [\[See reference 64\]](#).

3.61 The Ports of Grimsby and Immingham are the UK's largest ports by tonnage, handling around 12% (62.6 million tonnes) of the UK's cargo. Benefiting from a prime deep-water location on the Humber Estuary, one of Europe's busiest trade routes, it plays a central role in the commercial life of the UK. The port has seen major investments in recent years and now has specialist terminals capable of handling large vessels. Immingham has direct routes to Europe, North and South America, Africa, Australia, the Middle East and the Far East.

3.62 North East Lincolnshire has emerged as a key player in the renewable energy revolution, with the potential to be the UK capital of the offshore wind industry. Grimsby is less than 50 miles from many of the existing and planned wind farms off the Lincolnshire coast in the North Sea. Significant growth in the number of off shore energy generators is anticipated over the next ten years with at least 4,000 new turbines being planned for the area. The proximity of Grimsby to these sites has led to significant interest from operations and maintenance (OandM) providers, major manufacturers, component suppliers and supply chain organisations.

3.63 Grimsby has one of the largest concentrations of food manufacturing, innovation, storage and distribution in Europe. As 'Europe's Food Town' it is the centre of the UK's seafood industry and is home to around 500 food related companies, a fully modernised Fish Market and one of the largest concentration of cold storage facilities in Europe. Allied to these industries are a proven supply chain of specialist food sector service companies, leadership in innovation food technology and research and a ready and able workforce with a strong food culture. The £5.6 million Humber Seafood Institute is home to the UK Seafish Industry Authority. The Institute provides incubation and managed workspace units, new product development kitchens, chemical and environmental laboratory facilities and microbiological laboratories.

3.64 Around three million people visit North east Lincolnshire each year. The seaside resort of Cleethorpes and the Lincolnshire Wolds provide tourism with the tourism sector being a major employment and investment sector. The visitor economy accounts for around 7.7% of local jobs to the area and generates an income of around £0.5 billion for North East Lincolnshire [See reference 65].

3.65 The main retail offer in North East Lincolnshire is located in the centre of Grimsby with Freshney Place Shopping Centre being home to a range of high street retailers. Freshney Place Shopping Centre has been recently purchased by North East Lincolnshire Council. Secondary local shopping areas are located along St Peters Avenue, Cleethorpes and at the Civic Centre in Immingham. For a more boutique shopping experience, Abbeygate in Grimsby and Seaview Street in Cleethorpes offer quality branded fashion choices and a thriving cafe culture. In recent years, vacancy levels have increased and with the loss of prime retailers such as House of Fraser has had a negative impact on retail. Therefore, the quality of the shopping environment has lowered across North East Lincolnshire.

Transport

3.66 The Humber Estuary bounds the district to the east and north-east with the area connected to the national road network primarily by the A180 dual carriageway running westwards (becoming the M180 at Barnetby Top) before joining the M18 and the wider motorway network north of Doncaster. The two other main routes providing road access to the rest of the country are the A46 and the A16 which links the area with rural Lincolnshire and Boston. Although only its interchange with the A180 lies in North East Lincolnshire, the A160 is strategically important to the local economy as it provides a vital link from the A180 to the Port of Immingham. Improvements that have been made to the A160 include dual lanes and new junction improvements which is seen by local business as a key enabler for future development along the South Humber Bank [See reference 66]. Additionally, the South Humber bank link road (Energy Park Way) has been constructed, forming a direct link between employment areas of Grimsby and Immingham [See reference 67].

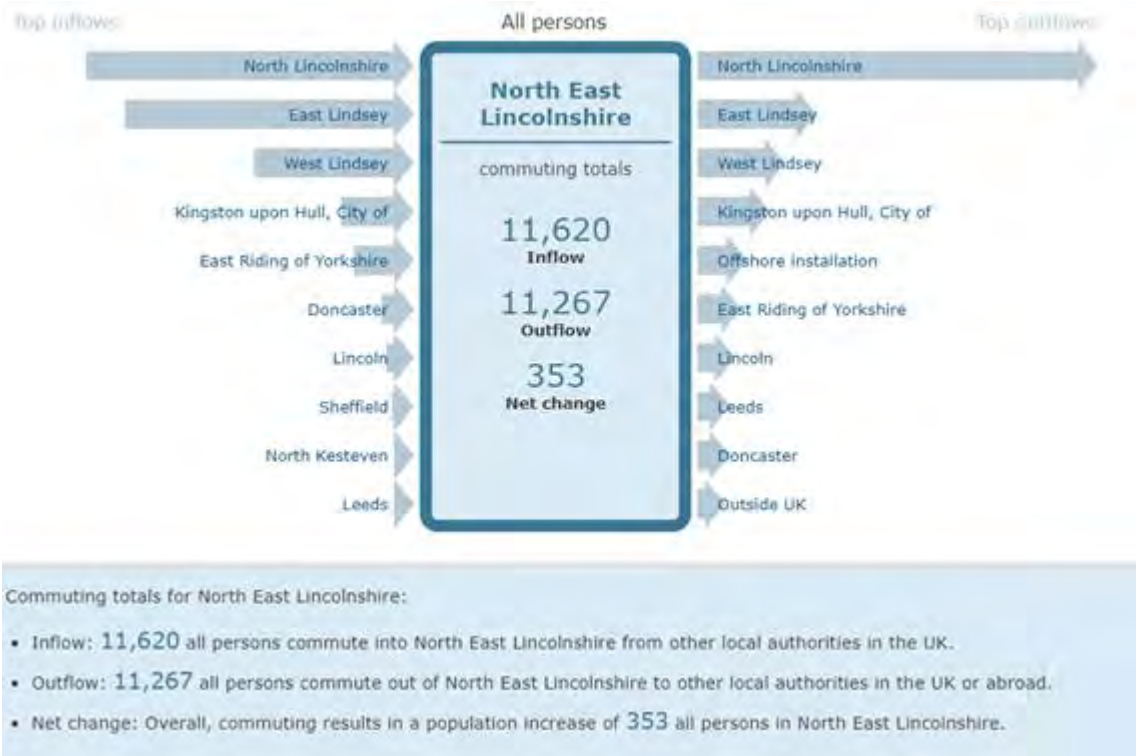
3.67 North East Lincolnshire has a variety of transport links. These can be seen on Figure 3.4. There are seven railway stations in North East Lincolnshire: Cleethorpes, New Clee, Grimsby Docks, Grimsby Town, Great Coates, Healing and Stallingborough. The main rail link runs parallel to the A180 from Cleethorpes through Grimsby and onwards towards Doncaster where connections are available to destinations along the East Coast Main Line. The route provides hourly services to Scunthorpe, Doncaster, Sheffield and Manchester. As well as being the main passenger rail line, the route is also a freight line mainly moving bulk fuel imports from Immingham to power stations in Yorkshire. This causes a level conflict with passenger traffic as additional train paths are restricted and line speeds are comparatively low.

3.68 Inter-urban bus services run between the district and Hull, Lincoln and Louth. Humberside Airport is located in neighbouring North Lincolnshire just 12 miles from Grimsby. The airport provides flights to destinations across Europe with connections to worldwide destinations via a seven day a week service to Schipol Airport in Amsterdam. The airport is also used to service the offshore energy operations in the North Sea. Freight ferry services operate from the Port of Immingham to Continental Europe; there is limited passenger availability on board services. The main passenger ferries from the region depart from Hull with daily sailings to Rotterdam and Zeebrugge [\[See reference 68\]](#).

3.69 The Travel to Work Area for North East Lincolnshire shows that the area exerts an influence much wider than its geographical borders. The vast majority of economically active people who live in North East Lincolnshire also work in North East Lincolnshire. The area also attracts workers from further away, residents of Barton-upon-Humber and the Humber villages (in North Lincolnshire), Holton-le-Clay and Keelby plus many other smaller settlements all look towards North East Lincolnshire for a range of services including employment, schools and healthcare provision. Most trips to work are by car (or van) as a driver - 39% according to the 2011 Census. This figure is higher than both the regional and national averages. A further 4.5 % are passengers in cars. 10.5% of trips are on foot or by cycle and a little under 4% of trips to work are by bus.

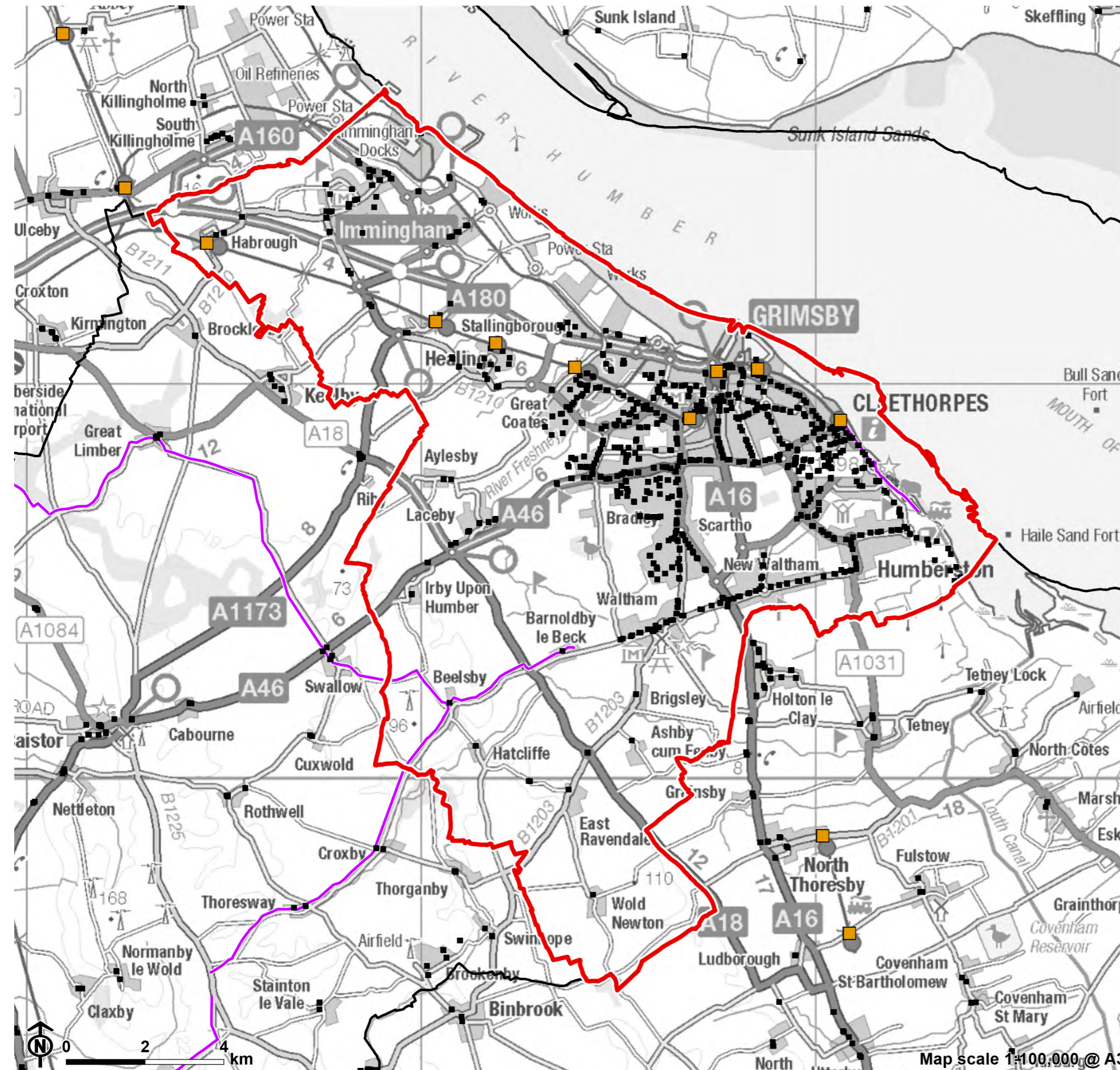
3.70 Commuting trends are demonstrated in Figure 3.3 below [See reference 69].

Figure 3.3: Flows of commuters in and out of North East Lincolnshire (total)



3.71 North East Lincolnshire has a high outflow at 11,267 people commuting to other local authorities for employment. Additionally, there is an equally high inflow of people commuting into North East Lincolnshire at 11,620 people.

Figure 3.4: Sustainable Transport Links



- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- Bus stop
- Railway station
- National Cycle Network



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Land and Water Resources

Geology and Minerals

3.72 Mineral resources in North East Lincolnshire fall into the following categories [See reference 70]:

- Aggregate minerals – These are necessary to support construction activity and include sand and gravel, and crushed rock.
- Industrial minerals – These are necessary to support construction, and industrial and manufacturing processes, and include a wide range of mineral resources including brick clay and silica sand.
- Energy minerals – These are used in the generation of energy and include shallow and deep-mined coal, as well as oil and gas, including ‘unconventional’ hydrocarbons such as shale gas.

3.73 North East Lincolnshire is underlain by white chalk, which forms the dominant bedrock geology of the area. On the surface of this chalk, there are deposits of clay, silt, sand, and gravels. The area has mineral resources including aggregates such as sand and gravel, and silica sand, and chalk.

3.74 There is a clear need for aggregates such as sand and gravel which is commonly used in construction. Blown sand (silica sand) occurs in limited areas and quantities and is therefore a scarce resource. Sand, gravel, and silica sand are considered to be of local and national importance. Chalk also occurs extensively locally. However, there is no identified demand for chalk in North East Lincolnshire. It’s use as a building stone is very limited locally, and therefore the resource identified in North East Lincolnshire is not considered to be of local or national importance. There are currently no extraction sites within North East Lincolnshire. However, the district is involved in the production of secondary and recycled aggregates, and the importation and transportation of minerals through the Ports of Immingham and Grimsby.

Water

3.75 North East Lincolnshire is located where the Humber Estuary meets the Lincolnshire Coast. The coastal waters, the internationally important Humber Estuary, as well as North East Lincolnshire's rivers, streams, ponds and groundwater are all important water resources within North East Lincolnshire. The location of the main watercourses in North East Lincolnshire are shown in Figure 3.5.

3.76 North East Lincolnshire is located within the Humber River Basin District, within the Louth, Grimsby and Ancholme catchment. Key river basin management issues identified for this catchment by the Humber RBD River Basin Management Plan (2015) [See reference 71] are to tackle the extent of historic river modification, tackle pollution from rural areas and tackle pollution from waste water.

3.77 The Water Framework Directive, transposed by the Water Framework Regulations, aims to achieve high or good status for surface water in all member states by 2027. The Environment Agency provides an assessment of the ecological and chemical condition of water bodies across the UK in 2019 [See reference 72]. The condition of water bodies within North East Lincolnshire are set out below:

- Humber Lower:
 - Ecological status – Moderate
 - Chemical status – Fail
- North Beck Drain:
 - Ecological status – Moderate
 - Chemical status – Fail
- Mawnbridge Drain:
 - Ecological status – Moderate
 - Chemical status – Fail

- Laceby Beck/River Freshney Catchment (to N Sea):
 - Ecological status – Bad
 - Chemical status – Fail
- Buck Beck from Source to N Sea:
 - Ecological status – Moderate
 - Chemical status – Fail
- Waithe Beck lower catchment (to Tetney Lock):
 - Ecological status – Moderate
 - Chemical status – Fail

3.78 The Humber Estuary is a nationally important water-dependent site, designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), a Special Protection Area (SPA), a Ramsar site and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The estuary contains a series of nationally important habitats, as set out in the ‘Biodiversity’ section of this chapter. As noted above, the ‘Humber Lower’ water body was assessed to be of ‘moderate’ ecological status in 2019. The chemical status was ‘fail’.

3.79 The River Freshney flows south-west to north-east through North East Lincolnshire, emptying into the Humber at Grimsby. In 2019 it was classified as ‘bad’ ecological status and ‘fail’ in its chemical status. However, work has taken place on a key project to improve the water quality of the River Freshney in Grimsby Town Centre, with more than 2,230 tonnes of silt removed from the riverbed in 2022. Dredging of this section of the riverbed has enabled the water to flow more freely through the town centre reaching channel depths of 1.8m [\[See reference 73\]](#).

3.80 North East Lincolnshire has one designated bathing water area. Cleethorpes (UK09000) is a popular resort with a sandy beach and promenade. In 2021 and 2022 the water quality classification for Cleethorpes was ‘good’; however this had declined from an ‘excellent’ rating in 2018 and 2019 [\[See](#)

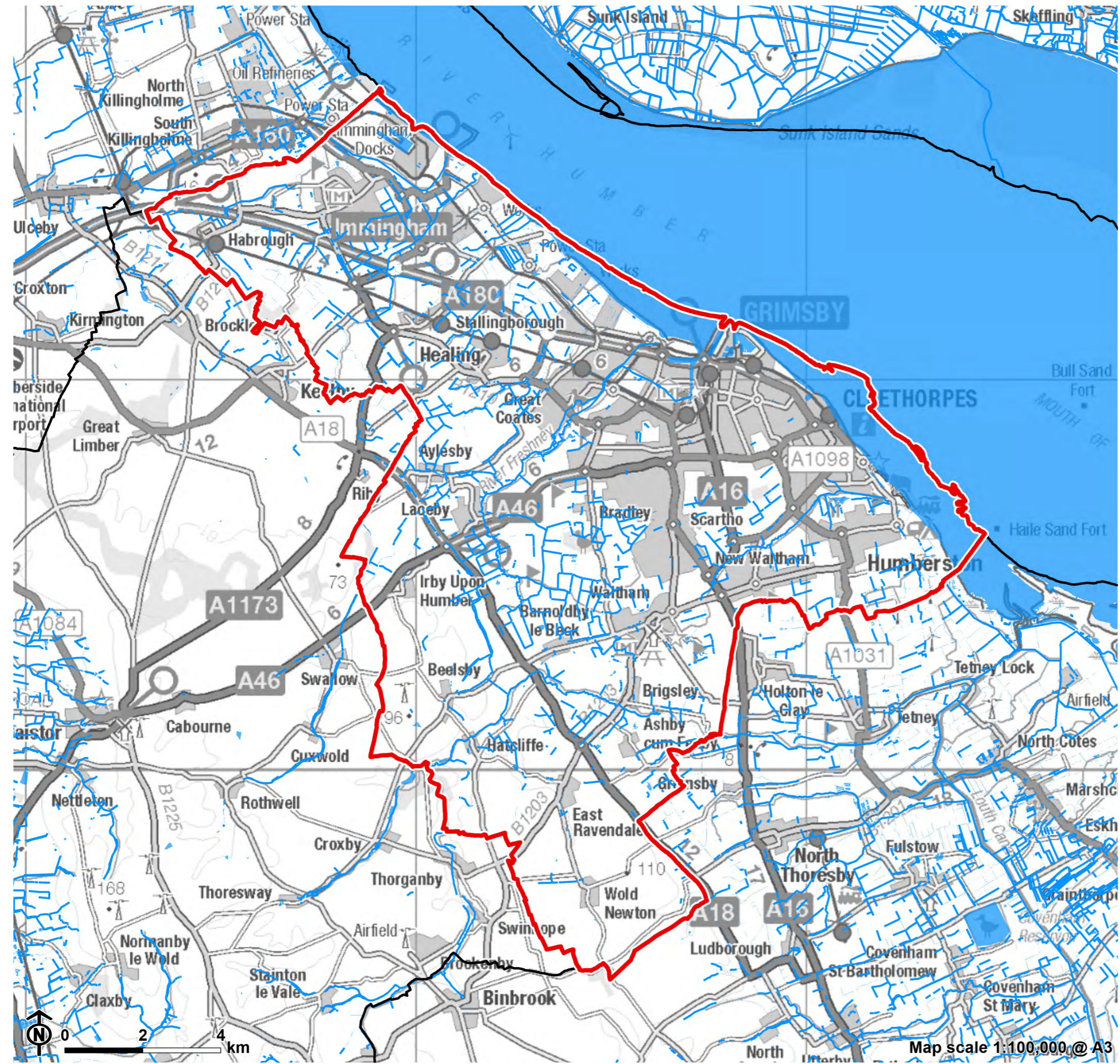
reference 74]. A large area of North East Lincolnshire is designated as a Groundwater Source Protection Zone.

3.81 Anglian Water provides for North East Lincolnshire’s water supply and wastewater treatment. Anglian Water’s Draft Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) 2024 **[See reference 75]** sets out the key challenges the area faces and the strategy for ensuring a safe, resilient water supply. The Draft WRMP identifies climate change, limited water supplies, population growth and demand management as key challenges for the region’s future water supply. The Anglian Water plan identifies serious water stress in its region and the plan aims to reduce water demand and promote water efficiency.

3.82 A large portion of North East Lincolnshire is identified as a Drinking Water Groundwater Safeguard Zone (SgZ), which are established around public water supplies where additional pollution control measures are needed **[See reference 76]**. Nitrate Sensitive Areas (NSAs) have been designated by Natural England in areas where nitrate concentrations in drinking water sources exceeded or was at risk of exceeding the limit of 50mg/l set by the Drinking Water Directive. North East Lincolnshire contains a small area of the North Lincolnshire Wolds NSA. Farmers within NSA must comply with mandatory action programme measures to reduce agricultural nitrate losses.

Figure 3.5: Watercourses in North East Lincolnshire

- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- Surface water - line
- Surface water - area



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Flood Risk

3.83 Flooding is a key issue within North East Lincolnshire as much of the urban area is located within a high flood risk zone (Flood Zones 2 or 3), as shown on Figure 3.6. The coastline of North East Lincolnshire is protected by way of a sea wall maintained by the Environment Agency.

3.84 Large parts of North East Lincolnshire have experienced severe flooding events. In 2007, over 630 properties experienced river and surface water flooding. Other significant flooding events took place in 2012 when 23 properties suffered surface water flooding in Immingham and in 2013 when the Port of Immingham and seafront properties in Cleethorpes experienced flooding caused by high tides and a storm surge [\[See reference 77\]](#).

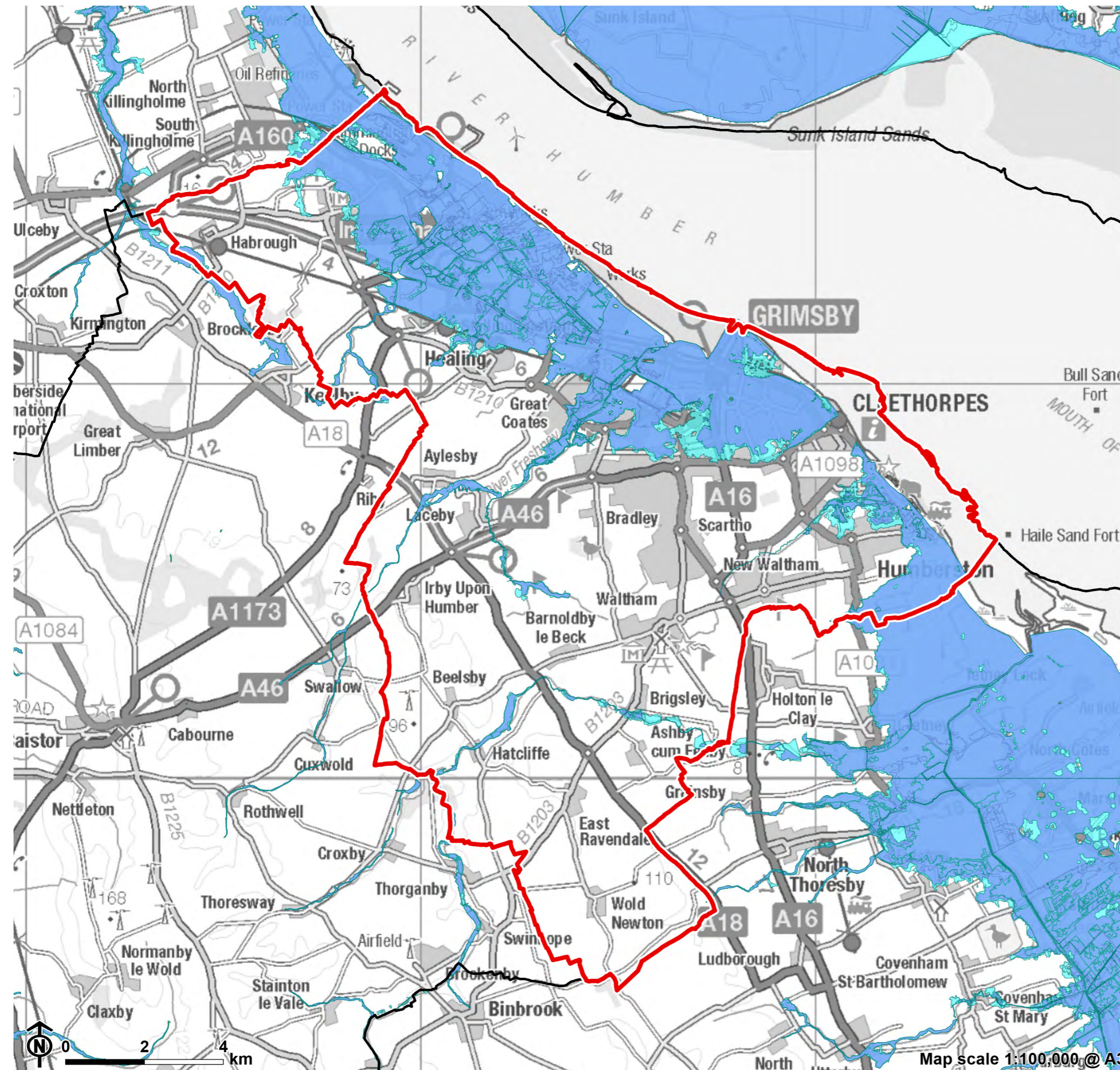
3.85 The Grimsby and Ancholme Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) was produced by the Environment Agency in 2009 [\[See reference 78\]](#). The key issues it highlights for the area are:

- River flooding from the River Freshney in Grimsby, as well as Buck Beck, however the probability of river flooding has been reduced in many places through the construction of embankments, flood storage areas and the pumping of drainage channels.
- The impacts of rivers not being able to flow freely to the sea at high tide (tide locking).
- Grimsby has a greater susceptibility to surface water flooding with the potential for sewerage systems to be overwhelmed. Surface water problems are also recognised in Immingham and Cleethorpes.
- The area's susceptibility to groundwater flooding if groundwater levels are high in the underlying rock.
- Localised flood threat from drains due to the land of the region being low lying and flat.

3.86 North East Lincolnshire is located on the coast and North East Lincolnshire Council is designated a Coast Protection Authority managing coastal erosion on two sections of coastline (the north and central promenades of Cleethorpes and the front line defence at Humberston Fitties). The Flamborough Head to Gibraltar Point Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) [See reference 79] sets out a plan for managing flood risk and erosion risk for a certain stretch of coastline. Within North East Lincolnshire, almost the entire coastline frontage is protected by hard defences; however much of the area (including large areas of Grimsby) is within the coastal flood plain. The plan states that in the long-term, coastal defences in this area will be held in their current position and their function will be maintained. Work is currently underway on the Humber 2100+ Strategy which will focus on the area around the Humber where flooding from the sea is the main source of flood risk. The Strategy will identify the most sustainable, credible and cost-effective approach to managing tidal flooding over the next 100 years, with a particular focus on the first 25 years, taking into account predicted sea level rise and climate change. The Strategy has been developed in partnership with the Environment Agency and 12 Local Authorities from around the Humber to address flood risk and enable sustainable growth now and for the next 100 years, given the economic importance of the estuary [See reference 80].

3.87 As previously outlined in the 'Climate Change Predictions' section of this chapter, the climate in North East Lincolnshire is expected to change, presenting a series of risks for North East Lincolnshire. The risk of flooding is expected to increase to the predicted effects of climate change causing a rise in sea levels and altered weather patterns. Due to the geography of North East Lincolnshire, flooding is one of the greatest risks to North East Lincolnshire from climate change.

Figure 3.6: Flood Risk



- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3

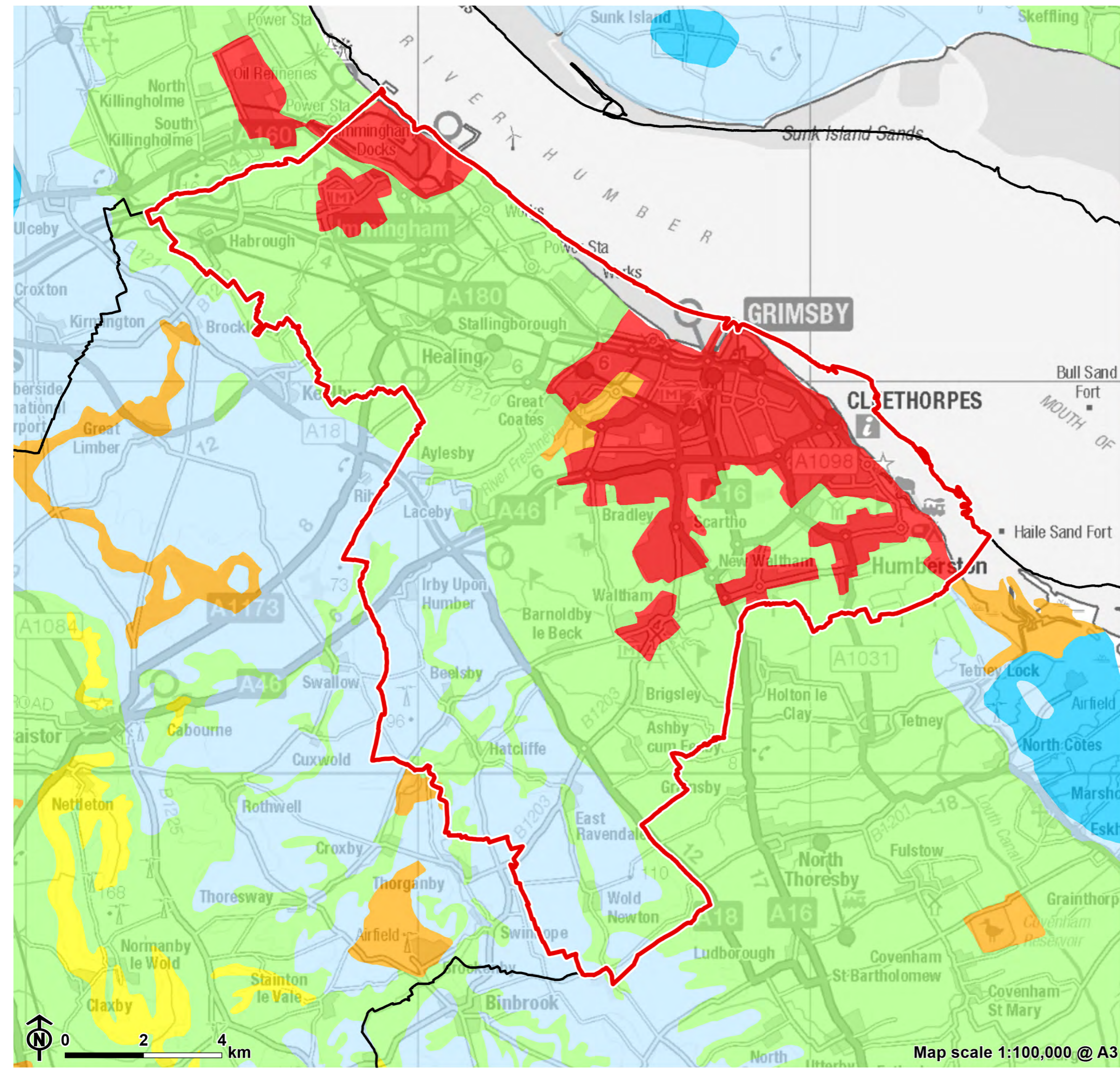
Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Soils

3.88 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system [\[See reference 81\]](#) provides a framework for classifying land according to the extent to which its physical or chemical characteristics impose long-term limitations to agricultural use. The principal factors influencing agricultural production are soil wetness, drought and erosion. These factors, together with interactions between them, form the basis for classifying land use into one of five grades, where 1 describes land as excellent (land of high agricultural quality and potential) and 5 describes land as very poor (land of low agricultural quality and potential). Land falling outside these scores is deemed to be 'primarily in non-agricultural use', or 'predominantly in urban use'. Grade 3 can be further separated into grades 3a and 3b, although this requires further local surveys and therefore such data is only available for small areas. Grades 1, 2 and 3a are considered to be best and most versatile agricultural land.

3.89 The majority of agricultural land in North East Lincolnshire is classified under the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system as Grade 3 agricultural land, with some areas of higher quality (Grade 2) in the southern part of North East Lincolnshire (within the Lincolnshire Wolds) [\[See reference 82\]](#).

Figure 3.7: Agricultural Land Classification



- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- Agricultural Land Classification**
- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 4
- Grade 5
- Non Agricultural
- Urban
- Exclusion



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Contaminated Land

3.90 Under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, North East Lincolnshire Council is responsible for regulating contaminated land. This requires surveying North East Lincolnshire, determining contaminated land, ensuring a solution is found, and identifying who should bear the costs of the solution.

3.91 In accordance with Section 78R of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Council is also required to maintain a public register of contaminated land, which serves as a permanent record of all regulatory action undertaken to ensure remediation of any site that has been classified as contaminated.

3.92 The definition of contaminated land from Part IIA Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended), Section 78A is: ‘any land which appears to the local authority in whose area it is situated to be in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land, that:

- significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; or
- significant pollution of controlled waters is being, or is likely to be, caused’

3.93 Local authorities are required to take a strategic approach in inspecting their area and are required to publish this as a part of a written strategy. Following a recent inspection, the Council concluded that the non-operational Landfill off Moody Lane, Great Coates, Grimsby should be determined as Contaminated Land. This is the only area of contaminated land in the district **[See reference 83]**.

Waste

3.94 Within North East Lincolnshire waste is produced from a variety of sources. As an authority, North East Lincolnshire is responsible for **[See reference 84]**:

- The collection of household waste; and
- The management of Municipal Solid Waste.

3.95 However, there are other sources of waste production in North East Lincolnshire which the Council does not have direct responsibility for, such as:

- Commercial waste;
- Industrial waste;
- Construction and demolition; and
- Agricultural waste.

3.96 While North East Lincolnshire Council does not have direct responsibility for these waste sources, it must ensure appropriate and correct management is being implemented in accordance with national legislation and policy.

3.97 North East Lincolnshire's Council's Waste Management Strategy 2020-2035 **[See reference 85]** focuses on local authority collected and managed waste. According to this strategy, the quantity of municipal waste being collected by the Council has reduced in recent years, in concordance with estimations made in the previous waste strategy (2008 Waste Strategy). The 2008 North East Lincolnshire Council waste strategy estimated that a total of more than 120,000 tonnes of municipal waste would be produced within the authority by 2019 – approximately 50,000 tonnes more than the waste actually produced in 2019. Current waste production therefore is far below what was expected upon the writing of the previous waste strategy.

3.98 A total of 76,100 tonnes of waste were collected in 2020-2021. Of the waste collected, 26,761 tonnes of waste was recycled. The remaining waste was either landfilled or incinerated. Therefore, North East Lincolnshire had a recycling rate of 35.2%. This is lower than the national average of 41.4%. Recycling rates in the Yorkshire and The Humber have been steadily increasing since 2000; however the rates started to plateau in 2012 [\[See reference 86\]](#).

3.99 The decline in waste collected by North East Lincolnshire Council is also noticeable when considering the amount of waste collected per head of population. In 2009/10, North East Lincolnshire Council collected 518.5kg of waste per person and this has decreased to 445.4kg per person in 2018/19. This is a decrease of 73.1kg of municipal waste collected per person, per year [\[See reference 87\]](#).

3.100 According to Government figures, North East Lincolnshire produced a total of 419,594.52 tonnes of controlled waste in 2018. Compared to the 2006/07 data obtained via the Environment Agency this would mean North East Lincolnshire has produced approximately 120,000 tonnes less controlled waste than it did more than a decade ago. This contrasts to national trends in waste production which have increased over the last decade [\[See reference 88\]](#).

Waste Management Sites

3.101 North East Lincolnshire has various waste management sites. These sites range from biological treatment facilities, operated by Anglian Water, to the Newlincs integrated waste management site which manages all municipal waste in North East Lincolnshire. The Newlincs site also ensures that no municipal waste is exported from North East Lincolnshire, meaning all of the municipal waste produced in North East Lincolnshire is managed within the council area.

3.102 While the Newlincs site manages all municipal waste and the biological treatment facility handles water waste produced in North East Lincolnshire there are also waste treatment facilities which manage waste produced outside of

North East Lincolnshire. Waste management facilities such as the Ryepower incineration plant manage up to 75,000 tonnes of non-local authority collected waste. There are also waste transfer stations at Immingham docks which manage waste that is imported and exported out of the country [See reference 89].

Biodiversity

3.103 The natural environment is extremely important in ensuring a high quality of life for all who live, work and play in North East Lincolnshire. The natural habitats and ecosystems help to sustain lives and a standard of living (providing what are often referred to as ‘ecosystems services’), including food, fuel, textiles, medicinal products, clean air and fresh water. Ecosystems, and the life they support, play an important role in regulating our environment, for example, climate regulation by absorbing carbon dioxide, purifying our water, pollinating crops and controlling floods [See reference 90].

3.104 North East Lincolnshire is bounded to the north east by the Humber Estuary, which is the second largest coastal plain estuary in the UK (after the Severn Estuary) [See reference 91]. The estuary is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), a Special Protection Area (SPA), a Ramsar site and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Humber Estuary contains a series of nationally important habitats. These are the estuary itself (with its component habitats of intertidal mudflats and sandflats and coastal saltmarsh) and the associated saline lagoons, sand dunes and standing waters. The estuary supports a breeding colony of grey seals, river lamprey and sea lamprey, a vascular plant assemblage and an invertebrate assemblage.

3.105 Aside from the Humber Estuary there are no other European designated sites within North East Lincolnshire. The parts of the estuary covered by the SSSI that fall within North East Lincolnshire are predominantly in ‘unfavourable recovering’ condition, with only the area at Cleethorpes Beach and from the area beach to Grimsby Dock identified as being in ‘favourable’ condition within no threat identified. Approximately one-third of the estuary is exposed as mud

or sand flats at low tide, and it regularly supports internationally important numbers of waterfowl in winter and nationally important breeding populations in summer [\[See reference 92\]](#).

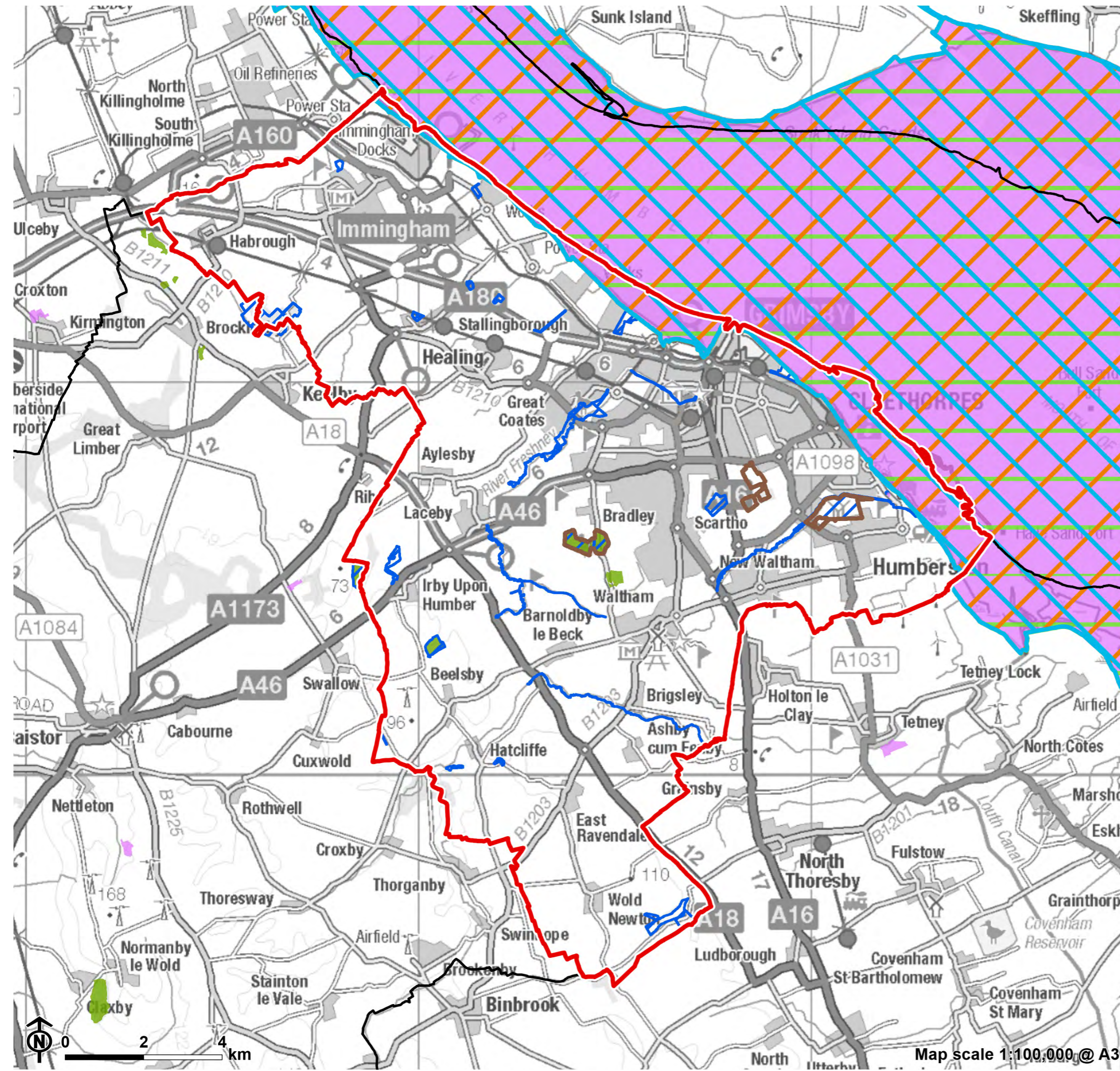
3.106 North East Lincolnshire Council has been working in partnership with Natural England and other organisations to develop mitigation measures to prevent development adversely affecting the estuary and has published the South Humber Gateway Mitigation Delivery Plan [\[See reference 93\]](#) which identifies sites in North East Lincolnshire that can be used to mitigate against the loss of land to development which is currently used by waders.

3.107 In addition to the designations at the Humber Estuary, there are four Local Nature Reserves within North East Lincolnshire – Bradley and Dixon Woods, Weelsby Woods Park, Cleethorpes Country Park and Cleethorpes Sands on the coast.

3.108 In North East Lincolnshire, the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) has identified 32 Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs). Only 22% of the sites were positively managed between 2021-2022, which represents a lower proportion than across Greater Lincolnshire where the figure was 49% [\[See reference 94\]](#). This is an increase on the 2020-21 figures when only 11% of the local sites in North East Lincolnshire were positively managed [\[See reference 95\]](#).

3.109 A map showing the designated biodiversity assets is provided in Figure 3.8.

Figure 3.8: Designated Biodiversity Assets



- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- Ancient Woodland
- Local Nature Reserve
- Local Wildlife Site
- Ramsar
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Area

Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Historic Environment

Heritage Assets

3.110 North East Lincolnshire has a range of unique heritage assets that contribute to the character and distinctiveness of the area [\[See reference 96\]](#).

These assets include:

- Listed Buildings;
- Registered Parks and Gardens;
- Scheduled Monuments;
- Conservation Areas;
- Undesignated Archaeological Monuments;
- Locally Listed Buildings and Complexes;
- Historic Shop Fronts; and
- Undesignated heritage assets (buildings of historic interest but not included in any of the above).

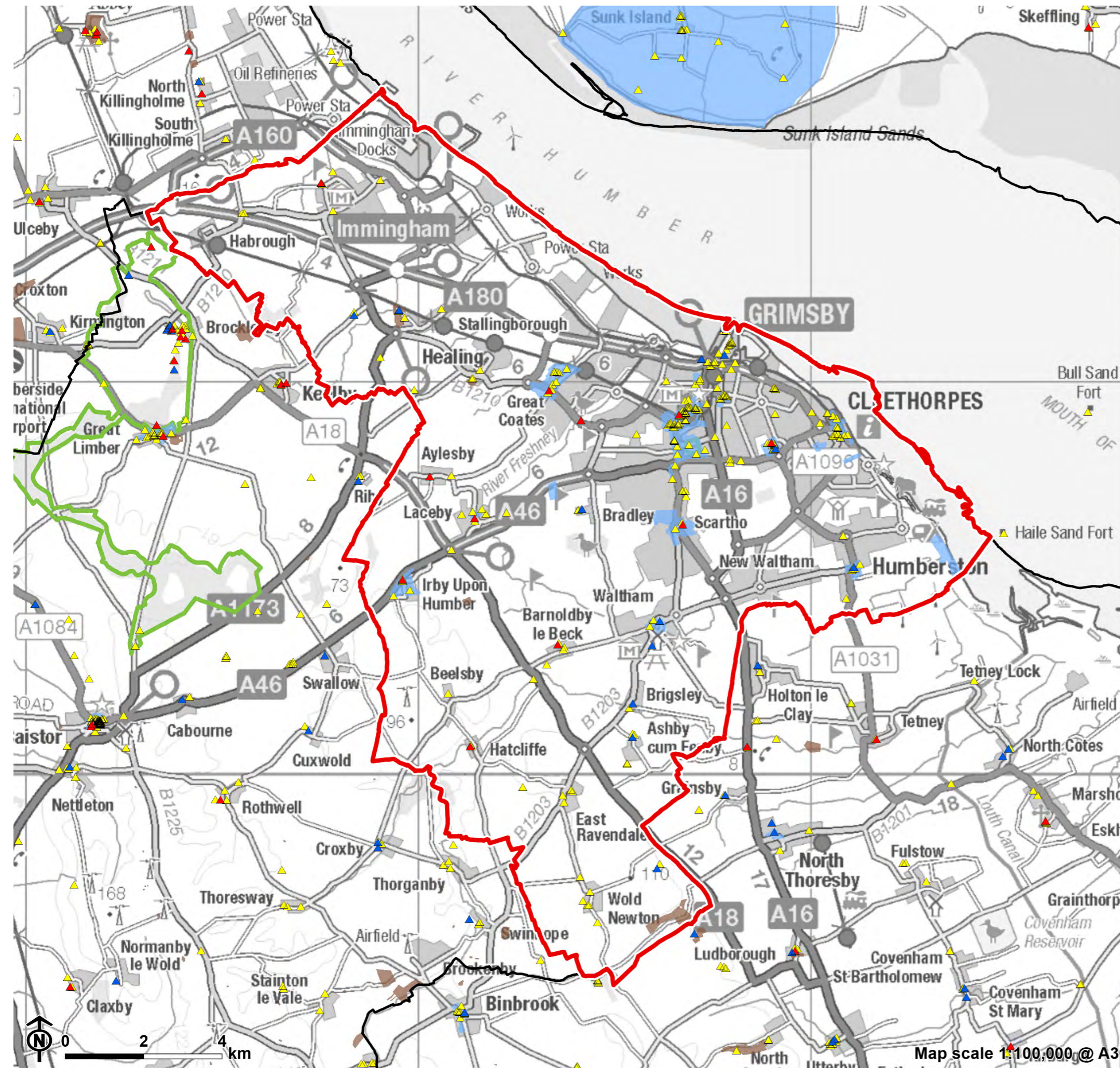
3.111 Some heritage assets, archaeological sites, historic buildings, shipwrecks, parks, formal gardens or battlefields, are considered to be of national importance.

3.112 In North East Lincolnshire there are 230 listed buildings – 12 Grade I, 13 Grade II* and 205 Grade II – as well as one registered Park and Garden at People’s Park, Grimsby. In addition, the area has 11 Scheduled Monuments that include medieval settlements, barrows, churchyard crosses, and Humberston Abbey. The designated heritage assets within North East Lincolnshire can be seen on Figure 3.9.

3.113 Conservation Areas are declared by the Local Authority for those areas which possess 'special interest', the 'character and appearance' of which is desirable to 'preserve and enhance'. They represent a familiar and often cherished local scene thus have greater protection against undesirable changes. In North East Lincolnshire there are 17 Conservation Areas.

3.114 An Article 4 Direction is a tool used by the Local Authority to restrict permitted development rights for selected properties. They are used to control works that could threaten the character of an area of acknowledged importance, such as a conservation area. In North East Lincolnshire there are six Article 4 Directions, five of these are within conservation areas, the sixth is on a Local List Asset.

Figure 3.9: Heritage Assets



- North East Lincolnshire District
 - Neighbouring local authority
 - Parks and Gardens
 - Conservation Area
 - Scheduled Monument
- Listed Building**
- ▲ Grade I
 - ▲ Grade II*
 - ▲ Grade II

The Historic England GIS Data contained in this map was obtained on 15/12/2022. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from [HistoricEngland.org.uk](https://historicengland.org.uk).

Heritage at Risk

3.115 Historic England has a Heritage at Risk Register [\[See reference 97\]](#) which includes historic buildings, Grade II* and Grade I listed buildings (Grade II listed buildings are only included for London), sites and Conservation Areas at risk of being lost through neglect, deterioration or decay. The register aims to highlight those places and buildings in greatest need of repair.

3.116 Eleven assets in North East Lincolnshire are on the Heritage at Risk Register. They include two vacant Grade II* listed buildings (the Grimsby Ice Factory and the Church of Saint Margaret), two Scheduled Monuments (a Civil War earthwork fort and a Premonstratensian priory chapel), as well as seven Conservation Areas. As well as these designated assets there are a wide range of non-designated cultural heritage features in North East Lincolnshire.

3.117 Historic England classifies building conditions as ‘very bad’, ‘poor’, ‘fair’ or ‘good’. The condition of buildings or structures on the Heritage at Risk Register typically ranges from ‘very bad’ to ‘poor’, ‘fair’ and (occasionally) ‘good’ reflecting the fact that some buildings or structures capable of use are vulnerable to becoming at risk because they are empty, under-used or face redundancy without a new use to secure their future. Assessing vulnerability in the case of buildings in fair condition necessarily involves judgement and discretion. A few buildings on the Register are in good condition, having been repaired or mothballed, but a new use or owner is still to be secured. Buildings or structures are removed from the Register when they are fully repaired/consolidated, and their future secured through either occupation and use, or through the adoption of appropriate management [\[See reference 98\]](#).

3.118 The heritage assets on Historic England’s Heritage at Risk Register and their condition is set out below.

- Central Area, Grimsby:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad

Chapter 3 Baseline Information

- Central Sea Front, Cleethorpes:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad
- Holme Hill, Grimsby:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad
- Victoria Mills, Grimsby:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad
- Wellow, Grimsby:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad
- Civil War earthwork fort 350m north east of Walf Farm, Irby:
 - Heritage Category – Scheduled Monument
 - Condition – Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems
- The Grimsby Ice Factory, Gorton Street, Grimsby:
 - Heritage Category – Listed Building Grade II*
 - Condition – Very bad
- Grimsby Haven Lock and Dock Wall 58 metres Long adjoining to West, Lock Hill:
 - Heritage Category – Listed Building Grade II*
 - Condition – Poor
- Former Heavy Anti-Aircraft Gun Site, Keelby Road, Stallingborough:
 - Heritage Category – Listed Building Grade II*

- Condition – Very bad
- The Kasbah:
 - Heritage Category – Conservation Area
 - Condition – Very bad
- Premonstratensian priory chapel 170m south west of priory farm, West Ravendale:
 - Heritage Category – Scheduled Monument
 - Condition – Generally unsatisfactory but with major localised problems.

Landscape

3.119 National Character Area (NCA) profiles created by Natural England are used to define the specific combination of landscape, geodiversity, biodiversity, history, culture and economic activity in the area. NCAs follow natural lines in the landscape instead of administrative boundaries **[See reference 99]**.

3.120 There are three NCAs within North East Lincolnshire that are derived from the National Character Assessment as updated by Natural England **[See reference 100]**. These three NCAs are the Humber Estuary, Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes, and Lincolnshire Wolds (see Figure 3.10). These are summarised below:

- The Lincolnshire Wolds National Character Area (43) is a long, narrow band of rolling agricultural land dominated by a west-facing chalk escarpment approximately 50 m high. The area is characterised by a range of varied yet unified features including open, arable plateau hill tops, chalk escarpments, deep dry valleys with sinuous beech woods and isolated ash trees punctuating the skyline. The area is sparsely settled with many villages hidden within the folds of the landscape and modest country houses and farmsteads. The landscape of the Wolds is strongly influenced by the underlying geology and the later glacial action that reshaped it. The solid geology is largely made up of a sequence of

sandstones, clays, sandy limestones, ironstones and chalk deposited between 155 and 95 million years ago during the late Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. The chalk is capped in places by glacial deposits, while glacial meltwater channels have carved away parts of the Wolds to leave steep valleys. To the south-east, the overlying glacial till creates a rounded edge to the Wolds, and towards the southern end the chalk cap has been removed to reveal the Lower Cretaceous sands, clays and ironstones which form a series of low hills with gravel terraces. A variety of local materials, some of which are used as building material, are found across the area including sandy limestone, sandstone, ironstone and chalk, with striking red chalk being notable [\[See reference 101\]](#).

- The Humber Estuary National Character Area (41) focuses on the open and expansive waters of the Humber where it flows in to the North Sea and the adjacent low-lying land. Several major rivers flow into the Humber, including the Trent, Don, Aire, Ouse and Hull, thus draining one-fifth of England. This is a low lying estuarine landscape, with extensive stretches of intertidal habitats including mudflats, salt marsh and reedbeds, coastal dunes and wetlands along the side of the estuary [\[See reference 102\]](#).
- The Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes (42) is an area characterised by a wide coastal plain which extends from Barton-upon-Humber in the north, across to Grimsby at the mouth of the Humber and south to Skegness. The area is bounded by the North Sea along its eastern edge and by the Lincolnshire Wolds to the west. The wide coastal plain incorporates three distinctively different but closely interconnected areas which run broadly parallel with the edge of the Wolds. To the west is the Middle Marsh which comprises a softly undulating arable landscape with a greater number of woodlands and hedgerows than other areas. To the east lies the Outmarsh, an open landscape of arable land, mixed with rich pasture divided by narrow dykes. The Outmarsh has changed in character – and was once as grassy as Romney Marsh or the Somerset Levels. It has gradually turned into an area which is predominately arable, particularly since effective pump drainage was introduced in the 2nd half of the 20th century, following the 1953 floods [\[See reference 103\]](#).

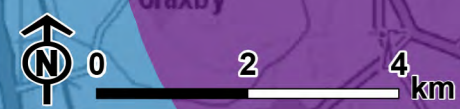
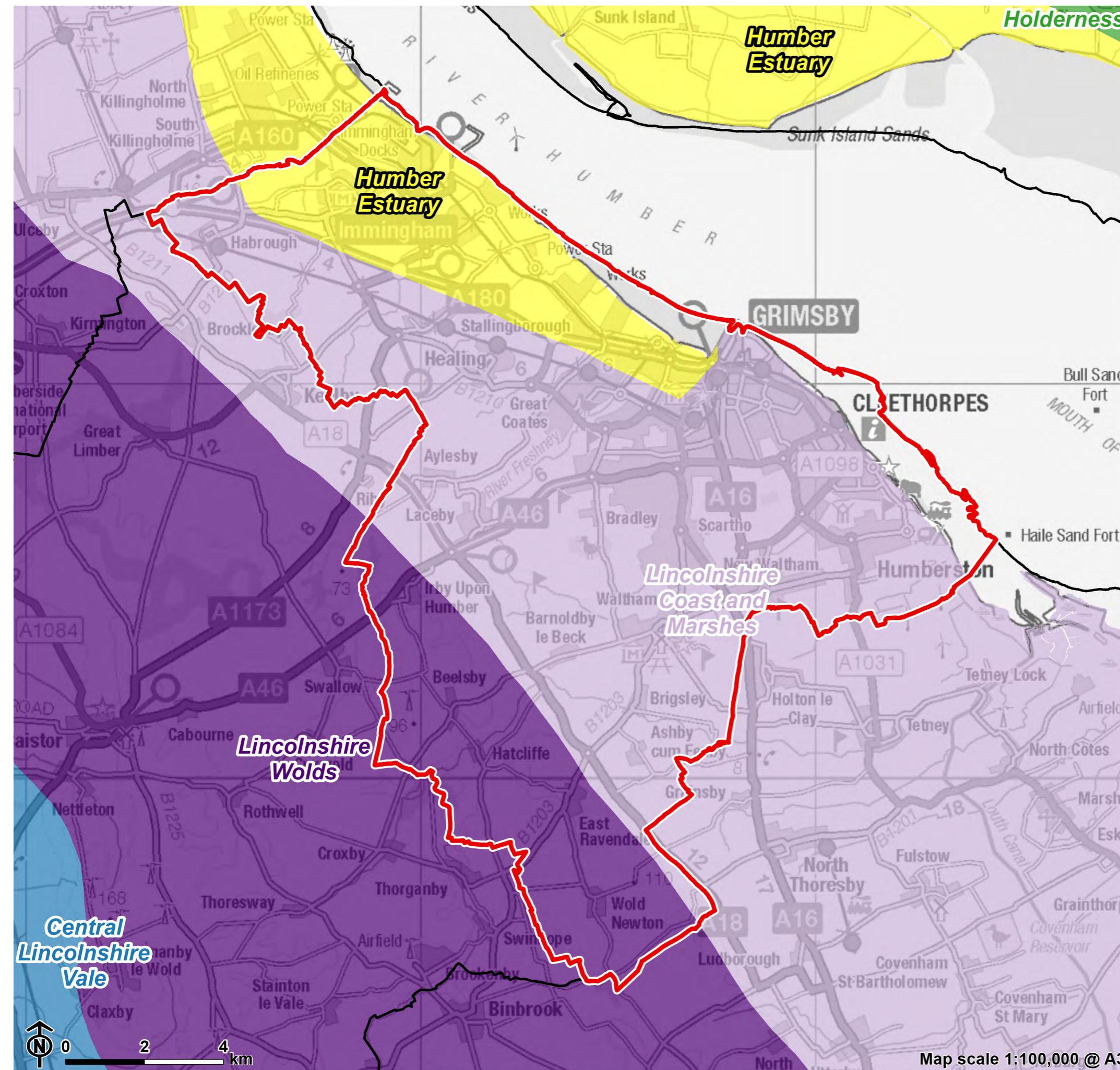
3.121 The 2015 Landscape Character Assessment for North East Lincolnshire also identifies six Local Landscape Types. These Landscape Types are: Industrial Landscape, Flat Open Farmland, Open Farmland, Wooded Open Farmland, Sloping Farmland, and High Farmland. The Landscape Character Assessment describes the historic importance of the Humber Estuary for the development of trade and commerce throughout the medieval period and its contribution to the growth of market towns in the area.

3.122 The Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes Character Area comprises elevated land lying above the coastal marshes and was attractive to early settlers, particularly because of the presents of streams such as Waithe Beck which still today form the focus of village and farm settlement. The Lincolnshire Wolds show evidence of settlement during Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Danish periods including roads and medieval villages. 20th century agricultural intensification had a significant influence on the landscape in the area.

3.123 The Lincolnshire Wolds has been designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB covers the southern part of North East Lincolnshire, as well as East and West Lindsey Districts. The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Management Plan currently runs from 2018-2023 and seeks to protect the unique landscape and special character of the area. The Management Plan identifies continued intensification of farming and telecommunication developments as one of the main threats to the landscape of the AONB. The intensification of farming leading to a loss of hedgerow trees and potential for erosion is also identified as a key pressure on the landscape of North East Lincolnshire, as identified in the 2015 Landscape Character Assessment [[See reference 104](#)].

Figure 3.10 National Character Areas

- North East Lincolnshire District
- Neighbouring local authority
- National Character Area**
 - Central Lincolnshire Vale
 - Holderness
 - Humber Estuary
 - Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes
 - Lincolnshire Wolds



Map scale 1:100,000 @ A3

Difficulties and Data Limitations

3.124 The SEA Regulations, Schedule 2(8) require the Environmental Report to include "...a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information".

3.125 At this stage, given the content and purpose of the SA Scoping Report, it is considered appropriate to report on the data limitations identified as the report was prepared:

- The lack of GIS data distinguishing between Grade 3a and 3b land;
- Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study 2015 is aged; and
- The information related to retail, leisure and town centres is based on a study undertaken in 2013 and is therefore out of date.

3.126 Where data limitations have been identified, if relevant updates sources become available at a later stage of the SA process, they will be used to update the baseline evidence for the appraisal work.

Chapter 4

Key Sustainability Issues and Likely Evolution without the Plan

4.1 Analysis of the baseline information has enabled a number of key sustainability issues facing North East Lincolnshire to be identified. Identification of the key sustainability issues and consideration of how these issues might develop over time if the Local Plan Review is not implemented help to meet the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive to provide information on “the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan; and any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan”.

4.2 Key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire were previously identified through the SA Scoping process in 2013 for the adopted North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. These issues have been taken as a starting point but reviewed and updated during the preparation of this SA Report for the Local Plan Review, in light of the updated policy review and baseline information. The current set of key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire is presented overleaf.

4.3 It is also a requirement of the SEA Regulations that consideration is given to the likely evolution of the environment in the plan area (in this case North East Lincolnshire) if the Local Plan Review was not to be implemented. This analysis is also presented overleaf in relation to each of the key sustainability issues.

4.4 The information collated shows that, in general, the current trends in relation to the various social, economic and environmental issues affecting North East Lincolnshire would be more likely to continue without the implementation of the Local Plan Review, although the policies in the adopted North East Lincolnshire Local Plan would still go some way towards addressing many of the issues. In most cases, the Local Plan Review offers opportunities to directly and strongly

affect existing trends in a positive way, through an up-to-date plan which reflects the requirements of the NPPF.

4.5 Key sustainability issues in North East Lincolnshire (including environmental problems as required by the SEA Regulations) are set out below:

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

- Hotter, drier summers are expected as a result of ongoing and accelerating climate change, which have the potential for adverse effects on human health and the natural environment. The Local Plan Review offers another opportunity to update the District's approach to managing the effects of the changing climate and associated weather events, particularly in the design of new buildings and green infrastructure.

Population, Health and Well-being

- There is high demand for housing, including affordable housing, as a result of rising house prices and previous years of under supply. Without the Local Plan Review, the required housing is less likely to be delivered.
- There is the need for a mix of housing types that cater for the needs of a range of people, from family to retirement housing and units with care. Without the Local Plan Review, the required mix of housing is less likely to be delivered. Population growth and demographic change will place additional demand on key services and facilities such as housing, health and education. The Local Plan Review offers a new opportunity to manage these pressures.
- There remain high levels of deprivation and a particular gap between life expectancy in the most deprived areas of North East Lincolnshire than in the least deprived areas. The Local Plan Review offers an opportunity to reduce the gap between the most and least deprived through appropriately planned growth.

- Levels of obesity in the Districts remain high. The Local Plan Review can tackle the health of its residents more generally in an integrated fashion by providing for, or encouraging access to, healthcare facilities and opportunities to exercise and travel on for and by bicycle. The Local Plan Review should also improve residents' access to nature as accessible natural green space provides opportunities for recreation and has co-benefits for biodiversity and climate change.

Economy

- There is a strong dependence on employment roles in manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade. North East Lincolnshire has a high number of people claiming universal credit and employment rates are low. The Local Plan Review could help by addressing specific education and skills gaps in the populations, whilst also supporting employment development, helping to redress the imbalance caused by seasonal fluctuations in tourism-related employment. The provision of infrastructure through the Local Plan Review will also support economic growth and the Plan can directly support certain sectors through the inclusion of relevant policies.

Transport

- Commuting to work is mainly dominated by the use of the private car. The Local Plan Review provides an opportunity to tailor policies that would address private vehicle use within the District and encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport, including active travel.

Land and Water Resources

- Generally poor quality of surface water. The Local Plan Review can ensure that development is directed to locations that will not result in water pollution and can support improvements in water quality.

- High flood risk across much of the urban area, expected to increase further as a result of climate change. The Local Plan Review offers an opportunity to contribute further to mitigate the potential effects of any flooding and help the District's communities adapt to the increased likelihood of significant weather events in the future.
- Extensive areas of high quality agricultural land which require protection from development. The Local Plan Review provides an opportunity to ensure that these natural assets are not lost or compromised by future growth in the District by prioritising the development of brownfield land over greenfield land and poorer agricultural land over the best and most versatile.

Waste

- Low recycling rates and a high volume of waste is being incinerated. The Local Plan Review provides an opportunity to provide adequate space in new developments for waste facilities capable of accommodating recyclable waste and compostable waste. Additionally, the Local Plan review will also ensure that there is sufficient land is available in appropriate locations for any new waste management facilities.

Biodiversity

- North East Lincolnshire contains a number of designated and undesignated biodiversity assets, a large proportion of which are in unfavourable condition, although recovering. All of these biodiversity sites could be harmed by inappropriate development and increased activity in North East Lincolnshire. The Local Plan Review provides an opportunity to take into account the most recent evidence on the condition of North East Lincolnshire's habitats and employ measures to ensure that future growth in the District does not adversely affect their current condition and where possible contributes to their enhancement, restoration and creation of connections, including through Biodiversity Net Gain and by embracing an ecosystems services approach.

Historic Environment

- Numerous sites, features and areas of historical and cultural interest in North East Lincolnshire at risk, which could be further adversely affected by poorly planned development. The Local Plan Review provides an opportunity to draw on the most up to date evidence to ensure that new development is sited and designed so as to conserve, enhance and encourage enjoyment of the historic environment as well as improve accessibility and interpretation of it.

Landscape

- Areas of high landscape sensitivity, particularly close to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB, which could be adversely affected by inappropriate development. The Local Plan Review offers an opportunity to take into account the most recent landscape-related evidence and to ensure that sensitive landscapes, townscapes and seascapes are protected and enhanced, with development being designed to take account of the variation in character and sensitivity across North East Lincolnshire.

Chapter 5

Sustainability Appraisal Framework

5.1 The development of a set of SA objectives (known as the SA framework) is a recognised way in which the likely environmental and sustainability effects of a plan can be described, analysed and compared.

5.2 The proposed SA framework for the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review is presented below. The framework has been developed from the analysis of international, national and local policy objectives, the baseline information, and the key sustainability issues identified for North East Lincolnshire.

5.3 The SA framework comprises a series of SA objectives against which the sustainability of the Local Plan Review will be appraised. The appraisal of the Local Plan Review policies and alternative spatial strategies against these SA objectives will be guided in part by the appraisal questions accompanying each objective. The appraisal of site options will be carried out using site-specific assessment criteria that have been developed in relation to each SA objective (see Appendix B). The questions included in the framework are not exhaustive, and some may be more relevant to certain Plan elements than others.

5.4 All of the topics specifically required by the SEA Regulations (set out in Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations) are clearly addressed by the headline SA objectives, as listed under each SA objective below.

SA Objective 1: Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources?
- Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Climatic Factors

SA Objective 2: Achieve efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land

Appraisal Questions

- Will it encourage development on previously developed land?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Soil
- Material assets
- Landscape

SA Objective 3: Maintain and improve a quality built environment and preserve historic assets

Appraisal Questions

- Will it protect listed buildings and their settings?
- Will it preserve or enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets?
- Will it preserve areas identified as important for conservation?
- Will it affect sites of archaeological importance?
- Will it affect sites of architectural or historic importance?
- Will it help to enhance the public realm?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Material assets
- Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage

SA Objective 4: Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment

Appraisal Questions

- Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?
- Will it have a detrimental impact on the presence or condition of local biodiversity/geodiversity?
- Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?
- Will it maintain and enhance woodland/hedgerow cover and management?
- Will it preserve/enhance open watercourses?
- Will it promote access to wildlife on appropriate sites?
- Will it encourage the development of new biodiversity assets and linkages to existing habitats within/alongside development?
- Will it increase the provision of and access to green infrastructure?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna

SA Objective 5: Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

Appraisal Questions

- Will it improve air quality?
- Will it help to achieve the objectives of the Air Quality Management Area?
- Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Air

SA Objective 6: Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources

Appraisal Questions

- Will it include energy efficiency measures?
- Will it reduce energy consumption?
- Will it reduce fossil fuel consumption?
- Will it encourage the prudent use of mineral resources?
- Will it encourage the development of renewable energy resources?
- Will it help in the prudent use of water?
- Will it safeguard North East Lincolnshire's material resources for future use?

- Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Water
- Soil
- Climatic factors
- Material assets

SA Objective 7: Reduce waste generation and increase levels of reuse and recycling

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce the amount of waste produced?
- Will it reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill?
- Will it maximise the recovery, re-use and recycling of waste?
- Will it reduce the amount of litter on open land and highways?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Material assets

SA Objective 8: Maintain and improve water quality

Appraisal Questions

- Will it protect and enhance the area's controlled water?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Water

SA Objective 9: Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and the natural environment

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce risk from flooding?
- Will it manage the effects of climate change from flooding?
- Will it ensure no new inappropriate developments in the flood plain?
- Will it increase the number of new developments that incorporate sustainable drainage techniques including SuDs?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Climatic factors
- Water

SA Objective 10: Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

Appraisal Questions

- Will it encourage people to live and work in the area?
- Will it promote diversity?
- Will it reduce levels of deprivation in the area?
- Will it address the needs of disadvantaged and minority groups?
- Will it promote equality in employment?
- Will it promote religious and racial understanding?
- Will it improve communications/connectivity, particularly in rural areas?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population
- Human Health

SA Objective 11: Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire's population

Appraisal Questions

- Will it improve people's health and reduce ill-health?
- Will it reduce the number of people on key benefits?

- Will it reduce the incidence of death?
- Will it reduce incidents of environmental health breaches?
- Will it reduce teenage pregnancy?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Human Health

SA Objective 12: Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour?
- Will it promote design of buildings and public spaces to reduce the potential of crime?
- Will it reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on North East Lincolnshire's roads?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population

SA Objective 13: Create vibrant communities

Appraisal Questions

- Will it promote access to cultural activities?

- Will it promote access to sports and leisure opportunities?
- Will it encourage participation by all user groups?
- Will it encourage increased engagement and improved access to leisure and cultural opportunities?
- Will it benefit rural communities?
- Will it improve town centres?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population
- Material assets

SA Objective 14: Ensure equal access to services, facilities and opportunities for all

Appraisal Questions

- Will it enable easy access to a range of high quality services and facilities?
- Will it improve accessibility for people in rural areas?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population

SA Objective 15: Promote sustainable transport use

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce the need to travel to key resources and services by means other than the car?
- Will it reduce the need to own a car?
- Will it promote the use of sustainable modes of transport?
- Will it improve access to goods and services by public transport?
- Will it reduce traffic volumes?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Climatic factors
- Air

SA Objective 16: Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone

Appraisal Questions

- Will it improve accessibility to affordable housing?
- Will it make housing available to people in need taking into account requirements of location, size, type and affordability?
- Will it improve the quality of housing stock?
- Will it make the homes more liveable?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population
- Material assets

SA Objective 17: Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes

Appraisal Questions

- Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the landscape and local distinctiveness and identity?
- Will it improve the condition of parks and open spaces?
- Will it improve the condition of the waterfront?
- Will it help to avoid settlement coalescence?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Landscape

SA Objective 18: Provide good quality employment opportunities and support economic growth

Appraisal Questions

- Will it impact the economic activity profile of the area?
- Will it increase the proportion of working age people in employment?

- Will it provide employment opportunities for local people?
- Will it increase the number of jobs available?
- Will it reduce the number of long-term unemployed?
- Will it promote or support equal employment opportunities?
- Will it offer employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups?
- Will it increase employment opportunities in rural areas?
- Will it lead to an increase in company formation?
- Will it encourage investment and competitiveness?
- Will it encourage economic growth in rural areas?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population
- Material assets

SA Objective 19: Provide good education and training opportunities

Appraisal Questions

- Will it improve the standards of education in the area?
- Will it impact on the educational attainment of the residents, e.g., number of people with degrees?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Population

Use of the SA Framework

5.5 The SA will be undertaken in close collaboration with the North East Lincolnshire Council officers responsible for drafting the Local Plan Review in order to fully integrate the SA process with the production of the plan.

5.6 The findings of the SA will be presented as a colour coded symbol showing the likely effect of each option against each of the SA objectives along with a concise justification for the effect identified. It may be possible to group the appraisal of strategic and development management policies by theme.

5.7 The use of colour coding in the matrices will allow for likely significant effects (both positive and negative) to be easily identified, as shown in Table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1: SA Framework symbols and colour coding

Symbol and colour code	Description
++	Significant positive effect likely
++/-	Mixed significant positive and minor negative effects likely
+	Minor positive effect likely
++/--	Mixed significant positive and negative effects likely
+/-	Mixed minor positive and negative effects likely
-	Minor negative effect likely
--/+	Mixed significant negative and minor positive effects likely
--	Significant negative effect likely
0	Negligible effect likely

Symbol and colour code	Description
?	Uncertain effect

5.8 The dividing line between sustainability effects is often quite small. Where significant effects are distinguished from more minor effects this is because, using the appraisal questions and criteria and applying professional judgement, the effect of the option on the SA objective will be of such magnitude that it will have a noticeable and measurable effect compared with other factors that may influence the achievement of that objective.

5.9 In determining the significance of the effects of the options for potential inclusion in the Local Plan Review it will be important to bear in mind the relationship of the Local Plan Review with the other documents in the planning system such as the NPPF and other national policy approaches, and regulatory requirements, as these may provide additional safeguards or mitigation of potentially significant adverse effects.

Reasonable Alternatives

5.10 The SA must appraise not only the preferred options for inclusion in the Local Plan Review but also ‘reasonable alternatives’ to these options. This implies that alternatives that are not reasonable do not need to be subject to appraisal. Part (b) of Regulation 12(2) notes that reasonable alternatives will take into account the objectives of the plan, as well as its geographical scope. Therefore, alternatives that do not meet the objectives of national policy or are outside the Plan area are unlikely to be reasonable.

5.11 The objectives, policies and site allocations to be considered for inclusion within the Local Plan Review are in the process of being identified and reviewed. The Council’s reasons for selecting the alternatives to be included in the Local Plan Review will be reported at a later stage in the SA process.

Chapter 6

Next Steps

6.1 In order to meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations, the views of the three statutory consultees (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England) are being sought in relation to the scope and level of detail to be included in the SA Report.

6.2 This SA Scoping Report is being published for consultation for a six week period.

6.3 Consultees are in particular requested to consider the following:

- Whether the scope of the SA is appropriate as set out considering the role of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan Review to help meet and manage North East Lincolnshire's needs;
- Whether there are any additional plans, policies or programmes that are relevant to the SA that should be included;
- Whether the baseline information provided is robust and comprehensive and provides a suitable baseline for the SA of the Local Plan Review;
- Whether there are any additional key sustainability issues relevant to the Local Plan Review that should be included;
- Whether the SA Framework (Chapter 5) is appropriate and includes a suitable set of SA objectives for assessing the effects of the options included within the Local Plan Review as well as reasonable alternatives; and
- Whether the proposed site assessment criteria set out in Appendix B are appropriate.

Chapter 6 Next Steps

6.4 Responses from consultees will be reviewed and appropriate amendments made to the detail contained in the Scoping Report, including the baseline information, policy context and SA Framework where necessary.

6.5 As the Local Plan Review is drafted, it will be subject to SA using the SA Framework presented in Chapter 5. A full SA Report (incorporating the later stages of the SA process) will then be produced and made available to other stakeholders and the general public for wider consultation alongside the emerging Local Plan Review. This will include any amendments to the Scoping work arising from the consultation on this report.

LUC

February 2023

Appendix A

Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

International Plans and Programmes of Most Relevance for the Local Plan Review

A.1 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), adopted by all United Nations Member States, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet and includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), designed to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

A.2 The United Nations Declaration on Forests and Land Use (COP26 Declaration) (2021) is an international commitment to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030 while delivering sustainable development and promoting an inclusive rural transformation.

A.3 The United Nations Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the 'Aarhus Convention') (1998) establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. The Parties to the Convention are required to make the necessary provisions so that public authorities (at national, regional or local level) will contribute to these rights to become effective.

A.4 The United Nations Declaration on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Declaration) (2002) sets a broad framework for international sustainable development, including building a humane, equitable and caring

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global society aware of the need for human dignity for all, renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency.

A.5 The United Nations Paris Climate Change Agreement (2015) is an international agreement to keep global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

A.6 The International Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) (1976) is an international agreement with the aim of conserving and managing the use of wetlands and their resources.

A.7 The European Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) (1979) aims to ensure conservation and protection of wild plant and animal species and their natural habitats, to increase cooperation between contracting parties, and to regulate the exploitation of those species (including migratory species).

A.8 The International Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) is an international commitment to biodiversity conservation through national strategies and action plans.

A.9 The European Habitats Directive (1992), together with the Birds Directive, sets the standard for nature conservation across the EU and enables all 27 Member States to work together within the same strong legislative framework in order to protect the most vulnerable species and habitat types across their entire natural range within the EU. It also established the Natura 2000 network.

A.10 The European Birds Directive (2009) requires the maintenance of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state in the European territory at a level which corresponds in particular to ecological, scientific and cultural requirements, while taking account of economic and recreational requirements.

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A.11 The United Nations Declaration on Forests (New York Declaration) (2014) sets out international commitment to cut natural forest loss by 2020 and end loss by 2030.

A.12 The Valletta Treaty (1992), formerly the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revisited), aims to protect the European archaeological heritage “as a source of European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study”.

A.13 The United Nations (UNESCO) World Heritage Convention (1972) promotes co-operation among nations to protect heritage around the world that is of such outstanding universal value that its conservation is important for current and future generations.

A.14 The European Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985) defines ‘architectural heritage’ and requires that the signatories maintain an inventory of it and take statutory measures to ensure its protection. Conservation policies are also required to be integrated into planning systems and other spheres of government influence as per the text of the convention.

A.15 The European Landscape Convention (2002) promotes landscape protection, management and planning. The Convention is aimed at the protection, management and planning of all landscapes and raising awareness of the value of a living landscape.

National Plans and Programmes (beyond the NPPF) of Most Relevance for the Local Plan Review

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

A.16 The British Energy Security Strategy (2022) sets out how the UK will enhance its energy security, setting out plans for future deployment of wind, new nuclear, solar and hydrogen, and for supporting the production of domestic oil and gas in the nearer term. The strategy builds on the Prime Minister's 'Ten point plan for a green industrial revolution', and the 'Net zero strategy'. Key aims and commitments include:

- New commitments to supercharge clean energy and accelerate deployment, which could see 95% of Great Britain's electricity set to be low carbon by 2030.
- Supporting over 40,000 more jobs in clean industries, totalling 480,000 jobs by 2030.
- Accelerated expansion of nuclear, wind, solar, hydrogen, oil and gas, including delivering the equivalent to one nuclear reactor a year instead of one a decade.
- Offshore wind – Aim of providing up to 50GW by 2030, of which 5GW is planned to be from floating offshore wind in deeper seas. This is aimed to be underpinned by new planning reforms to cut the approval times for new offshore wind farms from 4 years to 1 year and an overall streamlining which will aim to reduce the time it takes for new projects to reach construction stages while improving the environment.
- Oil and gas – A licensing round for new North Sea oil and gas projects is planned to launch in Autumn, with a new taskforce providing bespoke support to new developments.

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- Onshore wind – The Government plans to consult on developing partnerships with a limited number of supportive communities who wish to host new onshore wind infrastructure in return for guaranteed lower energy bills.
- Heat pump manufacturing – The Government aim to run a Heat Pump Investment Accelerator Competition in 2022 worth up to £30 million to make British heat pumps, with hopes to reduce demand for gas.

A.17 The Environment Act 2021 sets statutory targets for the recovery of the natural world in four priority areas: air quality, biodiversity, water, and resource efficiency and waste reduction. The Environment Act will deliver:

- Long-term targets to improve air quality biodiversity, water, and waste reduction and resource efficiency;
- A target on ambient PM2.5 concentrations;
- A target to halt the decline of nature by 2030;
- Environmental Improvement Plans, including interim targets;
- A cycle of environmental monitoring and reporting;
- Environmental Principles embedded in domestic policy making; and
- Office for Environmental Protection to uphold environmental law.

A.18 The Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021) sets out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet net zero targets by 2050. It sets out strategies to keep the UK on track with carbon budgets, outlines the National Determined Contribution (NDC) and sets out the vision for a decarbonised economy in 2050. Its focus includes:

- Policies and proposals for reducing emissions across the economy in key sectors (power, fuel supply and hydrogen, industry, heat and buildings, transport, natural gas and waste); and
- Policies and proposals for supporting transition across the economy through innovation, green investment, green jobs, embedding net-zero in

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government, local climate action, empowering people and businesses, and international leadership and collaboration.

A.19 The Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy (2021) aims to support existing industry to decarbonise and encourage the growth of new, low carbon industries to protect and create skilled jobs and businesses in the UK encouraging long-term investment in home-grown decarbonisation technology. The strategy builds in the Prime Minister's 10 Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and sets out the government's vision for building a competitive, greener future for the manufacturing and construction sector and is part of the government's path to net zero by 2050.

A.20 The strategy aims to reduce emissions by two-thirds in just 15 years and support up to 80,000 jobs over the next thirty years and includes measures to produce 20 terawatt hours of the UK industry's energy supply from low carbon alternatives by 2030. It also aims to introduce new rules on measuring the energy and carbon performance of the UK's largest commercial and industrial buildings, providing potential savings to businesses of around £2 billion per year in energy costs in 2030 and aiming to reduce annual carbon emissions by over 2 million tonnes - approximately 10% of their current emissions.

A.21 Other key commitments within the Strategy include:

- The use of carbon pricing to drive changes in industry to focus on emissions in business and investment decisions;
- To establish a policy framework to accelerate the switch from fossil fuels to low carbon alternatives such as hydrogen, electricity, or biomass;
- New product standards, enabling manufacturers to clearly distinguish their products from high carbon competitors;
- To ensure the land planning regime is fit for building low carbon infrastructure;
- Support the skills transition so that the UK workforce benefits from the creation of new green jobs;

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- An expectation that at least 3 megatons of CO₂ is captured within industry per year by 2030; and
- That by 2050, there will be zero avoidable waste of materials across heavy industries.

A.22 The Heat and Buildings Strategy (2021) sets out the government's plan to significantly cut carbon emissions from the UK's 30 million homes and workplaces. This strategy aims to provide a clear direction of travel for the 2020s, set out the strategic decisions that need to be taken this decade, and demonstrate how the UK plans to meet its carbon targets and remain on track for net zero by 2050.

A.23 Key aims of the strategy include:

- Reduce direct emissions from public sector buildings by 75% against a 2017 baseline by the end of carbon budget 6;
- Significantly reduce energy consumption of commercial, and industrial buildings by 2030;
- Phase out the installation of new natural gas boilers beyond 2035;
- Significantly grow the supply chain for heat pumps to 2028: from installing around 35,000 hydronic heat pumps a year to a minimum market capacity of 600,000 per year by 2028;
- Reduce the costs of installing a heat pump by at least 25-50% by 2025 and to ensure heat pumps are no more expensive to buy and run than gas boilers by 2030;
- Achieve 30-fold increase in heat pumps manufactured and sold within the UK by the end of the decade;
- Grow the market for heat pumps notably via a £450 million Boiler Upgrade Scheme to support households who want to switch with £5,000 grants;
- Improve heat pump appeal by continuing to invest in research and innovation, with the £60 million Net Zero Innovation Portfolio 'Heat Pump Ready' Programme supporting the development of innovation across the sector;

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- Ensure all new buildings in England are ready for Net Zero from 2025. To enable this, new standards will be introduced through legislation to ensure new homes and buildings will be fitted with low-carbon heating and high levels of energy efficiency;
- Establish large-scale trials of hydrogen for heating, including a neighbourhood trial by 2023;
- Ensure as many fuel poor homes in England, as reasonably practicable, achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating of band C by the end of 2030;
- Support social housing, low income and fuel poor households via boosting funding for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund and Home Upgrade Grant, which aim to improve the energy performance of low income households' homes, support low carbon heat installations and build the green retrofitting sector to benefit all homeowners; and
- Scale up low-carbon heat network deployment and to enable local areas to deploy heat network zoning- Heat Network Transformation Programme of £338 million (over 2022/23 to 2024/25).

A.24 The UK Hydrogen Strategy (2021) sets out the approach to developing a substantial low carbon hydrogen sector in the UK and to meet the ambition for 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030. The Strategy outlines the role of hydrogen in meeting net zero targets, the existing opportunity within the UK, a strategic framework, a roadmap for the economy, and the UK Government's commitments for a hydrogen economy. The Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations (2021).

A.25 The Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations (2021) seek to improve the energy efficiency of buildings, reducing their carbon emissions and lessening the impact of climate change. The Regulations require the adoption of a standard methodology for calculating energy performance and minimum requirements for energy performance, reported through Energy Performance Certificates and Display Energy Certificates.

A.26 The Energy white paper: Powering our net zero future (2020) builds on the Prime Minister's Ten point plan for a green industrial revolution. The white

paper addresses the transformation of the UK's energy system, promoting high-skilled jobs and clean, resilient economic growth during its transition to net-zero emissions by 2050.

A.27 Key aims of the paper include:

- Supporting green jobs – The government aims to support up to 220,000 jobs in the next 10 years. Several will be supported via a “major programme” that will see the retrofitting of homes for improved energy efficiency and clean heat.
- Transforming the energy system – To transform its electricity grid for net-zero, the white paper highlights how this will involve changing the way the country heats its homes, how people travel, doubling the electricity use, and harnessing renewable energy supplies.
- Keeping bills affordable – The government aims to do this by making the energy retail market “truly competitive”. This will include offering people a method of switching to a cheaper energy tariff and testing automatically switching consumers to fairer deals to tackle “loyalty penalties”.
- Generating emission-free electricity by 2050 – The government aims to have “overwhelmingly decarbonised power” in the 2030s in order to generate emission-free electricity by 2050.
- Establishing UK Emissions Trading Scheme – The government aims to establish a UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS) from 1 January 2021 to replace the current EU ETS at the end of the Brexit Transition Period.
- Exploring new nuclear financing options – The government is continuing to explore a range of financing options for new nuclear with developers including the Regulated Asset Base (RAB) funding model.
- Further commitments to offshore wind – The white paper lays out plans to scale up its offshore wind fleet to 40 gigawatts (GW) by 2030, including 1GW of floating wind, enough to power every home in the country.
- Carbon capture and storage investments – Including £1bn worth of investments in state-of-the-art CCS in four industrial clusters by 2030. With

four low-carbon clusters set up by 2030, and at least one fully net-zero cluster by 2040.

- Kick-starting the hydrogen economy – The government plans to work with industry to aim for 5GW of production by 2030, backed up by a new £240m net-zero Hydrogen Fund for low-carbon hydrogen production.
- Investing in electric vehicle charge points – The government plans to invest £1.3bn to accelerate the rollout of charge points for electric vehicles as well as up to £1bn to support the electrification of cars, including for the mass-production of the batteries needed for electric vehicles.
- Supporting the lowest paid with their bills – The government aims to support those with lower incomes through a £6.7bn package of measures that could save families in old inefficient homes up to £400. This includes extending the Warm Home Discount Scheme to 2026 to cover an extra three quarters of a million households and giving eligible households £150 off their electricity bills each winter.
- Moving away from fossil fuel boilers – The government aims, by the mid-2030s, for all newly installed heating systems to be low-carbon or to be appliances that it is confident can be converted to a clean fuel supply.
- Supporting North Sea oil and gas transition – The white paper notes the importance of supporting the North Sea oil and gas transition for the people and communities most affected by the move away from fossil fuels. The government aims to achieve this by ensuring that the expertise of the oil and gas sector be drawn on in developing CCS and hydrogen production to provide new green jobs for the future.

A.28 Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (2020) sets out the strategic priorities for the new Transport Decarbonisation Plan (TDP), published in July 2021. It sets out in detail what government, business and society will need to do to deliver the significant emissions reduction needed across all modes of transport, putting us on a pathway to achieving carbon budgets and net zero emissions across every single mode of transport by 2050. This document acknowledges that while there have been recently published strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in individual transport modes, transport as a whole sector needs to go further and more quickly, therefore the

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TDP takes a coordinated, cross-modal approach to deliver the transport sector's contribution to both carbon budgets and net zero.

A.29 Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management: Policy Statement (2020) sets out the government's long-term ambition to create a nation more resilient to future flood and coastal erosion risk, and in doing so, reduce the risk of harm to people, the environment and the economy. The Policy Statement sets out five policy areas which will drive this ambition. These are:

- Upgrading and expanding our national flood defences and infrastructure;
- Managing the flow of water more effectively;
- Harnessing the power of nature to reduce flood and coastal erosion risk and achieve multiple benefits;
- Better preparing our communities; and
- Enabling more resilient places through a catchment-based approach.

A.30 The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England 2011 sets out the national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It sets out the roles for risk management authorities and communities to help them understand their responsibilities. The strategic aims and objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Manage the risk to people and their property;
- Facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level – individual, community or Local Authority, river catchment, coastal cell or national; and
- Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

A.31 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and The Flood and Water Regulations 2019 sets out measures to ensure that risk from all sources of flooding is managed more effectively. This includes incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings; utilising the environment in order to reduce flooding; identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere; rolling back development in

coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and creating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).

A.32 The National Adaptation Programme and the Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting: Making the country resilient to a changing climate sets out visions for the following sectors:

- People and the Built Environment – “to promote the development of a healthy, equitable and resilient population, well placed to reduce the harmful health impacts of climate change...buildings and places (including built heritage) and the people who live and work in them are resilient and organisations in the built environment sector have an increased capacity to address the risks and make the most of the opportunities of a changing climate.”
- Infrastructure – “an infrastructure network that is resilient to today’s natural hazards and prepared for the future changing climate.”
- Natural Environment – “the natural environment, with diverse and healthy ecosystems, is resilient to climate change, able to accommodate change and valued for the adaptation services it provides.”
- Business and Industry – “UK businesses are resilient to extreme weather and prepared for future risks and opportunities from climate change.”
- Local Government – “Local Government plays a central role in leading and supporting local places to become more resilient to a range of future risks and to be prepared for the opportunities from a changing climate.”

A.33 The 25 Year Environment Plan sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Actions relating to climate change are as follows:

- Using and managing land sustainably – Take action to reduce the risk of harm from flooding and coastal erosion including greater use of natural flood management solutions.

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- Protecting and improving our global environment – Provide international leadership and lead by example in tackling climate change and protecting and improving international biodiversity.

A.34 Our Waste, Our Resources: A strategy for England (2018) aims to increase resource productivity and eliminate avoidable waste by 2050. The Strategy sets out key targets which include: a 50% recycling rate for household waste by 2020, a 75% recycling rate for packaging by 2030, 65% recycling rate for municipal solid waste by 2035 and municipal waste to landfill 10% or less by 2035.

A.35 The Clean Growth Strategy (2017) sets out the approach of the government to secure growth of the national income while cutting greenhouse gas emissions. The key policies and proposals of the Strategy sit below a number of overarching principles: acceleration of clean growth including through recommendations for private and public investment to meet carbon budgets; providing support to improve business and industry energy efficiency; improving energy efficiency in the housing stock including through low carbon heating; accelerating the shift to low carbon transport; delivering clean, smart, flexible power; enhancing the benefits and value of our natural resources; leading in the public sector to meet emissions targets; and ensure Government leadership to drive clean growth.

A.36 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 sets out six priority areas needing urgent further action over the next five years. These include:

- Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
- Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures;
- Risks of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry, with impacts on freshwater ecology;
- Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
- Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and

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- New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals.

A.37 The National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) (2014) identifies key planning objectives, requiring planning Authorities to:

- Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy;
- Ensure waste management is considered alongside other spatial planning concerns;
- Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste;
- Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment; and
- Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.

A.38 The Waste Management Plan for England (2013) sets out the measures for England to work towards a zero waste economy.

A.39 The Energy Efficiency Strategy: The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK 2012 aims to realise the wider energy efficiency potential that is available in the UK economy by maximising the potential of existing dwellings by implementing 21st century energy management initiatives on 19th century homes.

A.40 The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy (2009) sets out a five-point plan to tackle climate change. The points are as follows: protecting the public from immediate risk, preparing for the future, limiting the severity of future climate change through a new international climate agreement, building a low carbon UK and supporting individuals, communities and businesses to play their part.

A.41 The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009) sets out the ways in which we will tackle climate change by reducing our CO2 emissions through the generation of a renewable electricity, heat and transport technologies.

A.42 The Climate Change Act 2008 sets targets for UK greenhouse gas emission reductions of at least 100% by 2050, against a 1990 baseline (this was previously 80% but was updated to a net zero target in June 2019).

A.43 The Planning and Energy Act (2008) enables local planning authorities to set requirements for carbon reduction and renewable energy provision. It should be noted that while the Housing Standards Review proposed to repeal some of these provisions, at the time of writing there have been no amendments to the Planning and Energy Act.

A.44 The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations seek to prevent waste generation and to monitor and assess the implementation of measures included in waste prevention programmes. They set out requirements to justify not separating waste streams close to source for re-use, recycling or other recovery operations, prohibit incineration and landfilling of waste unless such treatment process represent the best environmental outcome in accordance with the waste hierarchy. The Regulations set out when waste management plans and in waste prevention programmes are required. The Regulations focus on the circular economy as a means for businesses to maximise the value of waste and waste treatment.

Health and Well-being

A.45 The White Paper Levelling Up the United Kingdom (2022) sets out how the UK Government will spread opportunity more equally across the UK. It comprises 12 UK-wide missions to achieve by 2030. Missions which relate to population, health and wellbeing state that by 2030:

- The gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2035 HLE will rise by five years.

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- Well-being will have improved in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.
- Homicide, serious violence, and neighbourhood crime will have fallen, focused on the worst-affected areas.
- Pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.
- The number of primary school children achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths will have significantly increased. In England, this will mean 90% of children will achieve the expected standard, and the percentage of children meeting the expected standard in the worst performing areas will have increased by over a third.
- Renters will have a secure path to ownership with the number of first-time buyers increasing in all areas; and the Government's ambition is for the number of non-decent rented homes to have fallen by 50%, with the biggest improvements in the lowest performing areas.

A.46 A fairer private rented sector White Paper (2022) aims to build upon the vision of the Levelling Up White Paper and reform the Private Rented Sector and improve housing quality. It outlines that everyone deserves a secure and decent home and outlines measures to improve the experience of renters in the Private Rented Sector.

A.47 The National Design Guide (2021) sets out the Government's priorities for well-designed places in the form of ten characteristics: context, identity, built form, movement, nature, public spaces, uses, homes and buildings, resources and lifespan.

A.48 Build Back Better: Our Plan for Health and Social Care (2021) sets out the government's new plan for health and social care. It provides an overview of how this plan will tackle the elective backlog in the NHS and put the NHS on a sustainable footing. It sets out details of the plan for adult social care in England, including a cap on social care costs and how financial assistance will

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work for those without substantial assets. It covers wider support that the government will provide for the social care system, and how the government will improve the integration of health and social care. It explains the government's plan to introduce a new Health and Social Care Levy.

A.49 The COVID-19 Mental Health and Wellbeing Recovery Action Plan (2021) sets out the Government's plan to prevent, mitigate and respond to the mental health impacts of the pandemic during 2021 and 2022. Its main objectives are to support the general population to take action and look after their own mental wellbeing; to take action to address factors which play a crucial role in shaping mental health and wellbeing outcomes; and, to support services to meet the need for specialist support.

A.50 The Charter for Social Housing Residents: Social Housing White Paper (2020) sets out the Government's actions to ensure residents in social housing are safe, listened to, live in good quality homes and have access to redress when things go wrong.

A.51 Using the planning system to promote healthy weight environments (2020), Addendum (2021) provides a framework and starting point for local authorities to clearly set out in local planning guidance how best to achieve healthy weight environments based on local evidence and needs, by focusing on environments that enable healthier eating and help promote more physical activity as the default. The Addendum provides updates on the implications for planning for a healthier food environment, specifically on the hot food takeaways retail uses, and sets out recommended actions in light of changes to the Use Class Order (UCO) in England from 1 September 2020.

A.52 The Public Health England, PHE Strategy 2020-25 (2019) identifies PHE's priorities upon which to focus over this five-year period to protect people and help people to live longer in good health.

A.53 The Homes England Strategic Plan 2018 to 2023 sets out a vision to ensure more homes are built in areas of greatest need, to improve affordability, and make a more resilient and diverse housing market.

A.54 The Housing White Paper 2017 (Fixing our broken housing market) sets out ways to address the shortfall in affordable homes and boost housing supply. The White Paper focuses on the following:

- Planning for the right homes in the right places – Higher densities in appropriate areas, protecting the Green Belt while making more land available for housing by maximising the contribution from brownfield and surplus public land, regenerating estates, releasing more small and medium-sized sites, allowing rural communities to grow and making it easier to build new settlements.
- Building homes faster – Improved speed of planning cases, ensuring infrastructure is provided and supporting developers to build out more quickly.
- Diversifying the Market – Backing small and medium-sized house builders, custom-build, institutional investors, new contractors, housing associations.
- Helping people now – supporting home ownership and providing affordable housing for all types of people, including the most vulnerable.

A.55 The Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2015 sets out the Government's planning policy for traveller sites, replacing the older version published in March 2012. The Government's overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

A.56 The Technical Housing Standards – Nationally Described Space Standard (2015) sets out the Government's new nationally described space standard. The standard deals with internal space within new dwellings and sets out requirements for the Gross Internal (floor) Area of new dwellings at a defined level of occupancy, as well as floor areas and dimensions for key parts of the home.

A.57 The Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change Report Ready for Ageing? (2013) warns that society is underprepared for the ageing population. The report states "longer lives can be a great benefit, but

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there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises". The report highlights the under provision of specialist housing for older people and the need to plan for the housing needs of the older population as well as younger people.

A.58 Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2011) investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is "overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities".

A.59 Laying the foundations: A housing strategy for England aims to provide support to deliver new homes and improve social mobility.

A.60 Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England 2010 sets out how the Government's approach to public health challenges will:

- Protect the population from health threats – led by central Government, with a strong system to the frontline;
- Empower local leadership and encourage wide responsibility across society to improve everyone's health and wellbeing and tackle the wider factors that influence it;
- Focus on key outcomes, doing what works to deliver them, with transparency of outcomes to enable accountability through a proposed new public health outcomes framework;
- Reflect the Government's core values of freedom, fairness and responsibility by strengthening self-esteem, confidence and personal responsibility; positively promoting healthy behaviours and lifestyles; and adapting the environment to make healthy choices easier; and
- Balance the freedoms of individuals and organisations with the need to avoid harm to others, use a 'ladder' of interventions to determine the least

intrusive approach necessary to achieve the desired effect and aim to make voluntary approaches work before resorting to regulation.

A.61 The Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 apply to environmental noise, mainly from transport. The regulations require regular noise mapping and action planning for road, rail and aviation noise and noise in large urban areas. They also require Noise Action Plans based on the maps for road and rail noise and noise in large urban areas. The Action Plans identify Important Areas (areas exposed to the highest levels of noise) and suggest ways the relevant authorities can reduce these. Major airports and those which affect large urban areas are also required to produce and publish their own Noise Action Plans separately. The Regulations do not apply to noise from domestic activities such as noise created by neighbours; at workplaces; inside means of transport; or military activities in military areas.

Environment (biodiversity/geodiversity, landscape and soils)

A.62 Establishing the Best Available Techniques for the UK (UK BAT) (2022) sets out a new framework that aims to improve industrial emissions and protect the environment through the introduction of a UK BAT regime. It aims to set up a new structure of governance with a new independent body in the form of Standards Council and the Regulators Group, consisting of government officials and expert regulators from all UK nations. It aims to also establish a new UK Air Quality Governance Group to oversee the work of the Standards Council and the delivery of the requirements under this new framework. It is anticipated that the BATC for the first four industry sectors will be published in the second half of 2023.

A.63 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. Those of relevance to this chapter are recovering

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nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes; securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and protecting and improving our global environment. Actions that will be taken as part of these three key areas are as follows:

- Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes:
 - Develop a Nature Recovery Network to protect and restore wildlife and provide opportunities to re-introduce species that have been lost from the countryside.
- Securing clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans:
 - Achieve a good environmental status of the UK's seas while allowing marine industries to thrive and complete our economically coherent network of well-managed marine protected areas.
- Protecting and improving our global environment:
 - Provide international leadership and lead by example in tackling climate change and protecting and improving international biodiversity.
 - Support and protect international forests and sustainable agriculture.

A.64 The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora, including birds. The Regulations lay down rules for the protection, management and exploitation of such habitats and species, including how adverse effects on such habitats and species should be avoided, minimised and reported.

A.65 Biodiversity offsetting in England Green Paper (2013). Biodiversity offsets are conservation activities designed to compensate for residual losses. The Green Paper sets out a framework for offsetting.

A.66 Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011) guides conservation efforts in England up to 2020 by requiring a national

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halt to biodiversity loss, supporting healthy ecosystems and establishing ecological networks.

A.67 The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2010 is an Act of Parliament to make new provision for public access to the countryside.

A.68 Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (2009) sets out how England’s soils will be managed sustainably. It highlights those areas which Defra will prioritise and focus attention on tackling degradation threats, including better protection for agricultural soils; protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon; building the resilience of soils to a changing climate; preventing soil pollution; effective soil protection during construction and dealing with contaminated land.

A.69 England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles (2008) sets out principles to guide adaptation to climate change. The principles are take: practical action now, maintain and increase ecological resilience, accommodate change, integrate action across all sectors and develop knowledge and plan strategically. The precautionary principle underpin all of these. Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

A.70 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places a duty on public bodies to conserve biodiversity.

A.71 The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 is an Act of Parliament to make provision for National Parks and the establishment of a National Parks Commission; to confer on the Nature Conservancy and local authorities’ powers for the establishment and maintenance of nature reserves; to make further provision for the recording, creation, maintenance and improvement of public paths and for securing access to open country.

Historic Environment

A.72 Historic England, Corporate Plan 2022-23 contains the action plan which sets out how the aims of the corporate plan will be delivered. The plan includes priorities to demonstrate how Historic England will continue to work towards delivering the heritage sector's priorities for the historic environment.

A.73 The Heritage Statement 2017 sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector and help it to protect and care for our heritage and historic environment, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.

A.74 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, Historic England Advice Note 8 (2016) sets out requirements for the consideration and appraisal of effects on the historic environment as part of the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

A.75 The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010 sets out the Government's vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life. Includes reference to promoting the role of the historic environment within the Government's response to climate change and the wider sustainable development agenda.

A.76 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 is an Act of Parliament that changed the laws for granting of planning permission for building works, with a particular focus on listed buildings and conservation areas.

A.77 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 is a law passed by the UK government to protect the archaeological heritage of England and Wales and Scotland. Under this Act, the Secretary of State has a duty to compile and maintain a schedule of ancient monuments of national importance,

in order to help preserve them. It also creates criminal offences for unauthorised works to, or damage of, these monuments.

A.78 The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 is an Act of Parliament that makes provision for the compilation of a register of gardens and other land (parks and gardens, and battlefields).

Water and Air

A.79 Managing Water Abstraction (2021) is the overarching document for managing water resources in England and Wales and links together the abstraction licensing strategies.

A.80 The Clean Air Strategy 2019 sets out the comprehensive action that is required from across all parts of Government and society to meet these goals. This will be underpinned by new England-wide powers to control major sources of air pollution, in line with the risk they pose to public health and the environment, plus new local powers to take action in areas with an air pollution problem. These will support the creation of Clean Air Zones to lower emissions from all sources of air pollution, backed up with clear enforcement mechanisms. The UK has set stringent targets to cut emissions by 2020 and 2030.

A.81 The Water Environment Regulations 2017 protect inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, and outlines the associated river basin management process. These Regulations establish the need to prevent deterioration of waterbodies and to protect, enhance and restore waterbodies with the aim of achieving good ecological and chemical status.

A.82 The UK Plan for Tackling Roadside Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations 2017 sets out the Government's ambition and actions for delivering a better environment and cleaner air, including £1 billion investment in ultra-low emission vehicles, a £290 million National Productivity Investment Fund, a £11 million Air Quality Grant Fund and £255 million Implementation Fund to help

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Local Authorities to prepare Air Quality Action Plans and improve air quality, an £89 million Green Bus Fund, £1.2 billion Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy and £100 million to help improve air quality on the National road network.

A.83 The Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2016 provides for the designation of land as nitrate vulnerable zones and imposes annual limits on the amount of nitrogen from organic manure that may be applied or spread in a holding in a nitrate vulnerable zone. The Regulations also specify the amount of nitrogen to be spread on a crop and how, where and when to spread nitrogen fertiliser, and how it should be stored. It also establishes closed periods during which the spreading of nitrogen fertiliser is prohibited.

A.84 The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 focus on the quality of water for drinking, washing, cooking and food preparation, and for food production. Their purpose is to protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring it is wholesome and clean.

A.85 The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 streamline the legislative system for industrial and waste installations into a single permitting structure for those activities which have the potential to cause harm to human health or the environment. They set out how to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment and human health.

A.86 The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2016 set out limits on concentrations of outdoor air pollutants that impact public health, most notably particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). It also sets out the procedure and requirements for the designation of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

A.87 The Water White Paper (2012) sets out the Government's vision for the water sector including proposals on protecting water resources and reforming

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the water supply industry. It states outlines the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystem, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources.

A.88 The National Policy Statement for Waste Water (2012) sets out Government policy for the provision of major waste water infrastructure. The policy set out in this NPS is, for the most part, intended to make existing policy and practice in consenting nationally significant waste water infrastructure clearer and more transparent.

A.89 Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008) sets out how the Government wants the water sector to look by 2030, providing an outline of steps which need to be taken to get there. These steps include improving the supply of water; agreeing on important new infrastructure such as reservoirs; proposals to time limit abstraction licences; and reducing leakage. The document also states that pollution to rivers will be tackled, whilst discharge from sewers will be reduced.

A.90 The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007) sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues by setting out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved. It introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives. The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Further improve air quality in the UK from today and long term; and
- Provide benefits to health quality of life and the environment.

A.91 The Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 apply to environmental noise, mainly from transport. The regulations require regular noise mapping and action planning for road, rail and aviation noise and noise in large urban areas. They also require Noise Action Plans based on the maps for road and rail noise and noise in large urban areas. The Action Plans identify Important Areas (areas exposed to the highest levels of noise) and suggest ways the relevant

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authorities can reduce these. Major airports and those which affect large urban areas are also required to produce and publish their own Noise Action Plans separately. The Regulations do not apply to noise from domestic activities such as noise created by neighbours; at workplaces; inside means of transport; or military activities in military areas.

A.92 The Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (2003) protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and certain industrial sectors, notably domestic and industrial waste water. The regulations require the collection of waste water and specifies how different types of waste water should be treated, disposed and reused.

A.93 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes provision for the improved control of pollution to the air, water and land by regulating the management of waste and the control of emissions. Seeks to ensure that decisions pertaining to the environment are made in an integrated manner, in collaboration with appropriate authorities, non-governmental organisations and other persons.

Economic Growth

A.94 The Growth Plan 2022 makes growth the government's central economic mission, setting a target of reaching a 2.5% trend rate. Sustainable growth will lead to higher wages, greater opportunities and provide sustainable funding for public services. The Chancellor of the Exchequer's "growth plan" contained a raft of significant tax measures, with major changes being announced for both individuals and businesses.

A.95 Build Back Better: Our Plan for Growth (2021) sets out a plan to 'build back better' tackling long-term problems to deliver growth that delivers high-quality jobs across the UK while supporting the transition to net zero. This will build on three core pillars of growth: infrastructure, skills and innovation.

A.96 The Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024 aims to drive competitiveness, increase productivity, reduce carbon emissions, and generate

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fairer returns across the agricultural industry. The Transition Plan introduces several new schemes to improve the environment, animal health and welfare, and farm resilience and productivity (e.g., grants will be available for sustainable farming practices, creating habitats for nature recovery and making landscape-scale changes such as establishing new woodland and other ecosystem services).

A.97 The Agriculture Act 2020 sets out how farmers and land managers in England will be rewarded in the future with public money for “public goods” – such as better air and water quality, thriving wildlife, soil health, or measures to reduce flooding and tackle the effects of climate change, under the Environmental Land Management Scheme. These incentives will provide a vehicle for achieving the goals of the government’s 25 Year Environment Plan and commitment to reach zero emissions by 2050. The Act will help farmers to stay competitive, increase productivity, invest in new technology and seek a fairer return from the marketplace. Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024.

A.98 UK Industrial Strategy: Building a Britain fit for the future (2018) lays down a vision and foundations for a transformed economy. Areas including artificial intelligence and big data; clean growth; the future of mobility; and meeting the needs of an ageing society are identified as the four ‘Grand Challenges’ of the future.

A.99 The National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016-2021 brings together the Government’s plans for economic infrastructure over this five year period with those to support delivery of housing and social infrastructure.

A.100 The LEP Network Response to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper Consultation (2017) seeks to ensure that all relevant local action and investment is used in a way that maximises the impact it has across the Government’s strategy. Consultation responses set out how the 38 Local Enterprise Partnerships will work with Government using existing and additional resources to develop and implement a long-term Industrial Strategy.

Transport

A.101 The Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy Report to Parliament (2022) sets out the objectives and financial resources for cycling and walking infrastructure. It states the Government's long-term ambition is to make walking and cycling the natural choices for shorter journeys. It aims to double cycling by 2025, increase walking activity, increase the percentage of children that usually walk to school and reduce the number of cyclists killed or seriously injured on England's roads.

A.102 Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain (2021) (Decarbonising Transport Plan (DTP)) sets out the Government's commitments and the actions needed to decarbonise the entire transport system in the UK. It follows on from the Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge report published in 2020. The DTP commits the UK to phasing out the sale of new diesel and petrol heavy goods vehicles by 2040, subject to consultation, in addition to phasing out the sale of polluting cars and vans by 2035. The DTP also sets out how the government will improve public transport and increase support for active travel, as well as creating a net zero rail network by 2050, ensuring net zero domestic aviation emissions by 2040, and a transition to green shipping.

A.103 Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (2020) sets out the strategic priorities for the new Transport Decarbonisation Plan (TDP), published in July 2021. It sets out in detail what government, business and society will need to do to deliver the significant emissions reduction needed across all modes of transport, putting us on a pathway to achieving carbon budgets and net zero emissions across every single mode of transport by 2050. This document acknowledges that while there have been recently published strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in individual transport modes, transport as a whole sector needs to go further and more quickly, therefore the TDP takes a coordinated, cross-modal approach to deliver the transport sector's contribution to both carbon budgets and net zero.

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A.104 The Road to Zero (2018) sets out new measures towards cleaner road transport, aiming to put the UK at the forefront of the design and manufacturing of zero emission vehicles. It explains how cleaner air, a better environment, zero emission vehicles and a strong, clean economy will be achieved. One of the main aims of the document is for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040.

A.105 The Transport Investment Strategy 2017 sets out four objectives that the strategy aims to achieve:

- Create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it;
- Build a stronger, more balanced economy by enhancing productivity and responding to local growth priorities;
- Enhance our global competitiveness by making Britain a more attractive place to trade and invest; and
- Support the creation of new housing.

A.106 The Highways England Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan (2017) is designed to communicate the company's approach and priorities for sustainable development to its key stakeholders. Highways England aims to ensure its action in the future will further reduce the impact of its activities seeking a long-term and sustainable benefit to the environment and the communities it serves. The action plan describes how Highways England will progress the aspirations of their Sustainable Development and Environment Strategies. It describes actions that will enable the company to deliver sustainable development and to help protect and improve the environment.

A.107 Door to Door: A strategy for improving sustainable transport integration (2013) focuses on four core areas which need to be addressed so that people can be confident in choosing greener modes of transport. There are as follows:

- Accurate, accessible and reliable information about different transport options;
- Convenient and affordable tickets;

- Regular and straightforward connections at all stages of the journey and between different modes of transport; and
- Safe and comfortable transport facilities.

A.108 The strategy also includes details on how the Government is using behavioural change methods to reduce or remove barriers to the use of sustainable transport and working closely with stakeholders to deliver a better-connected transport system.

Sub-national Plans and Programmes of Most Relevance for the Local Plan Review

A.109 Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted in 2016. The current plan consists of two parts:

- Core strategy and development management policies – This outlines the principles for the future winning and working of minerals and the form of waste management. It also provides the criteria under which we consider minerals and waste development applications.
- Site locations – This includes specific proposals and policies for the provision of land for mineral and waste.

A.110 Lincolnshire County Council has begun work on updating the minerals and waste local plan.

A.111 The Electric Vehicle Strategy has been developed to support the overarching objectives of the local transport plan. The process took a four stage approach:

- Baselineing and research;
- Policy context and technical stakeholder engagement;

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- Forecasting demand and charging requirements; and
- Recommendations and reporting.

A.112 The Local Transport Plan 5 2022-26 covers the short, medium, and longer-term time horizons for transport and highways for the whole of Lincolnshire. The short-term horizon is for the period 2022-26 and focuses on what is needed to continue to support the sustainable growth agenda of delivering new houses and jobs, whilst reducing carbon emissions and supporting the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also need to take account of the changes to accessibility and mobility that have taken place in the short-term but that may become permanent changes in the longer-term; the growth of home working and home shopping being two key examples. In the medium-term this plan is designed to support the Local Plans all with time lines running until 2034. Whilst there is less detail for this time frame, the plan looks at infrastructure requirements for all modes but notably for rail where planning horizons are often extended due to the complexity of the rail industry. Finally, the plan has a short section on the longer-term future and what issues, trends and opportunities await the county up until 2050.

A.113 The Lincolnshire Geodiversity Strategy 2022-26 highlights the importance of geodiversity to the health of our environment, and to everyone's wellbeing. Awareness of the importance of geodiversity is growing, which is one of the reasons a new strategy was needed. The geodiversity strategy aims to:

- Record and conserve the geodiversity of Greater Lincolnshire;
- Ensure geodiversity is included in relevant plans and policies;
- Raise awareness of the importance of geodiversity across all sectors; and
- Ensure delivery of geodiversity objectives through adequate funding.

A.114 The North East Lincolnshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2015) sets out how we and others will work together to manage the risk of flooding. It has an Action Plan which sets out the work that the council and others plan to undertake in the short, medium and long term. The strategy will

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contribute to the Council's strategic aims to promote a stronger economy and stronger communities through eight objectives:

- All stakeholders (including members of the public) will have an improved understanding of their responsibilities for flood risk management;
- Improve our understanding of local flood risk;
- Reduce the risks to those most vulnerable to local flooding;
- Increase the amount of flood risk management work undertaken, ensuring there is a contribution to wider social, economic and environmental outcomes and sustainable development;
- Create a strong collaborative approach across stakeholders to address risks from all sources of flooding;
- Ensure that local communities are prepared to manage the risks of flooding;
- Ensure that new development does not increase local flood risk and contributes to a reduction where possible; and
- Ensure effective emergency flood response plans are in place.

A.115 The Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (WRMP24) demonstrates how they ensure a sustainable and secure supply of clean drinking water for our customers from 2025 to 2050. It also shows how resilient water supplies will be balanced with the needs of the environment, customers and affordability. The draft WRMP24 strategy focusses on:

- Demand management – Building on our smart metering strategy which will allow us to communicate with our customers more effectively, encourage them to use less water, and also enables us to identify leaks on customers' properties more quickly. Demand management is a crucial part of our plan to ensure we have time to assess, plan for, and construct, our new supply options.
- Two new raw water reservoirs – One in the Fens and another in South Lincolnshire will supply water to around 625,000 homes. They have the potential to provide other great benefits too, such as wellbeing for

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communities, new habitats for wildlife and also possible irrigation opportunities.

- Utilising other sources of water, such as water reuse, desalination and transfers. You can read more about these in our non-technical summary.

A.116 The Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy (2008) overall aims to manage the risk of flooding around the Humber Estuary in ways that are sustainable for the people who live there, the economy and the environment.

The detailed objectives are to:

- Maintain and, where possible, enhance public safety, health and security;
- Respond to natural processes and to avoid contamination and erosion;
- Protect and, where appropriate, provide opportunities for economic development and employment;
- Protect existing transport infrastructure;
- Protect and, where appropriate, enhance biodiversity;
- Protect the historic environment; and
- Protect and, where appropriate, enhance landscape, amenity and recreational features.

A.117 The Humber River Basin District River Basin Management Plan 2016 overall aims to manage the risk of flooding around the Humber Estuary in ways that are sustainable for the people who live there, the economy and the environment. The document sets out the:

- Current state of the water environment;
- Pressures affecting the water environment;
- Environmental objectives for protecting and improving the waters;
- Programme of measures, actions needed to achieve the objectives; and
- Progress since the 2009 plan.

A.118 Grimsby and Ancholme Catchment Flood Management Plan 2009. The majority of North East Lincolnshire is within the Grimsby and Ancholme catchment, with the southern section near Cleethorpes being in the Louth Coastal catchment. Within the Grimsby and Ancholme catchment, North East Lincolnshire falls within two sub-areas. Ancholme, North Lincolnshire Wolds and Laceby sub-area to the west, is an area of low to moderate flood risk where existing flood risk management actions can generally be reduced. The Immingham, Grimsby and Buck Beck sub-area to the east is an area of low, moderate or high flood risk where flood risk is already managed effectively but where further actions may be needed to keep pace with climate change.

A.119 The Flamborough Head to Gibraltar Point Shoreline Management Plan 2010 is an aspirational broad scale plan for managing flood and erosion risk for our particular stretch of shoreline, looking at the short, medium and long term. The main aim is to develop a sustainable management approach for the coastline. The North East Coastal Group (of which the Council is a member) reports on the progress of the policies and actions.

A.120 A Plan for the Humber 2012-2017 sets out a number of key economic objectives which include: realising the true potential of the estuary, building on other key sector strengths and addressing barriers to growth. Specific objectives are set out for each overarching objective.

A.121 Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023. The five key aims of the Management Plan are to sustain and enhance:

- The Lincolnshire Wolds' natural beauty and its landscape character;
- Farming and land management in the Wolds as the primary activities in maintaining its character, landscape and biodiversity;
- Recreational, tourism and interpretive activities and opportunities appropriate to the area;
- The economic and social base of the Wolds including the development and diversification of enterprises appropriate to the area; and

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- Partnerships between organisations, the local community, landowners and others with an interest in the Wolds.

A.122 The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2011-2020, 3rd edition includes action plans for 26 priority habitats, and 12 priority species, in addition to three action plans for 'Biodiversity information and monitoring', 'Policy, planning and resource management', and 'Awareness and involvement'.

A.123 The North East Lincolnshire Council Natural Assets Plan 2021 sets out how the Council and its partners can improve the area's unique natural environment for the benefit of everyone. It explains why they are important, what our current situation is and what actions the Council plans to take in the short, medium, and long-term to improve it. The Plan focuses around the eight themes set out below:

- Planning our future land use;
- Managing our open spaces;
- Biodiversity and special sites;
- Trees and woodlands;
- Water Management;
- Improving air quality;
- Protecting health and wellbeing; and
- Education, involvement, and enjoyment.

A.124 Humber Housing Strategy 2009-2019. The overarching vision of the strategy is "Creating balanced housing markets in the Humber, providing people with a range of high quality, affordable housing and related support, positively contributing to sustainability and economic prosperity". There are three strategic priorities:

- Creating more balanced housing markets in the Humber;
- Providing high quality homes in the Humber; and

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- Meeting diverse housing needs in the Humber.

A.125 The North East Lincolnshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2021 has identified that there is no need for pitches up to 2035.

A.126 The evidence-led Local Industrial Strategy for Lincolnshire (2017) sets the locally agreed economic priorities of Greater Lincolnshire to 2030 and beyond. The County produced an Evolving Opportunities Framework and issued a call for evidence in order to develop the focus for our Local Industrial Strategy. Since then the County have been working with local partners and government to further develop the strategy.

A.127 Lincolnshire's Evolving Opportunities are:

- A rural innovation test-bed for energy and water;
- An adaptive ports and logistics industry driving greater connectivity;
- Future proofing the agri-food industry;
- Supporting people to live well for longer in rural areas; and
- A high-quality inclusive visitor economy.

A.128 The North East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) (2021) is a suite of assessments regarding local health and wellbeing and social care needs. The JSNA is a statutory requirement and the evidence from the JSNA is used to inform commissioning to improve the health and wellbeing of the local population. The JSNA is comprised of seven themes, all of which are integral to the wellbeing of the local population.

A.129 The North East Lincolnshire Air Quality Strategy 2021-2026 will provide a framework to deliver local air quality improvements which is aimed at informing policy and direction across a wide range of council services. The strategy focuses on seven broad topics which set out the areas where the council can influence a reduction in air pollution within the borough:

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- Transport: Working towards a cleaner, less polluting transport network that both supports sustainable transport modes (walking, cycling, car share and public transport) and makes maximum use of existing resources through effective highways and transport planning.
- Public Health: Encouragement of wider behavioural changes in the local population with respect to their travel choices, raise awareness and educate members of the public on the health impact of air pollution.
- Planning and Infrastructure: Be involved in the planning decision making process as early as is practicable to mitigate potential air quality impacts and support environmentally sustainable development in NEL.
- Strategies and Policy Guidance: Working with other departments and stakeholders to direct the use of legislation and targeted enforcement to control air pollution.
- Air Quality Monitoring: The collation of air quality monitoring data will identify pollution hotspots enabling interventions and improvement to be made in those areas of concern.
- Raise Public Awareness: NELC will encourage the local community to become involved in improving air quality and take actions to reduce their contributions to local air quality emissions.
- Funding Air Quality Improvements: To give long term commitment to fund air quality improvements within the borough.

A.130 The North East Lincolnshire Green Space Strategy 2016-2021 is a framework that contributes to Council functions including open spaces, planning, regeneration and transport in North East Lincolnshire. Its function is to:

- Ensure future green space allocations are appropriate to demand and to comply with local planning policy. The Strategy will recognise other plans by the Council while contributing to the Local Plan 2016.
- To protect and improve North East Lincolnshire Council's accessible parks and open space.

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- To provide the Council with a robust basis to assist with development decisions and negotiating planning gain.
- Help to identify ways in which parks and open spaces can be improved in a coordinated way and at the same time providing value for money.
- Provide clear objectives and direction for the planning and management of parks and open spaces.
- Ensure North East Lincolnshire's green spaces are well managed and sustainable.
- Protect and enhance green spaces for the benefit of people and wildlife.
- Provide continuity of management.

A.131 The North East Lincolnshire Net Zero Carbon Roadmap sets out how the Council plans to achieve its aim to cut its carbon emissions to net zero by 2040 and for North East Lincolnshire to be carbon net zero by 2050.

Surrounding Development Plans

A.132 North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2011. North Lincolnshire is situated to the north-east of North East Lincolnshire. The Core Strategy, which was adopted in June 2011, sets out the long term vision for North Lincolnshire and provides a blueprint for managing growth and development in the area up to 2026. Between 2008 and 2026, North Lincolnshire is expected to deliver 13,500 new dwellings at a rate of 750 new dwellings per year. In terms of employment, a total of 40 a of employment land will be allocated. It also anticipates that job growth will take place at a rate of 550 per year until 2026.

A.133 North Lincolnshire Council has submitted its new Local Plan which, once adopted, will replace the current plan. The North Lincolnshire Local Plan Submission version (November 2022) is currently undergoing Examination. Between 2021 and 2038, North Lincolnshire is expected to deliver 7,937 dwellings through housing allocations and committed sites. Over the period

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2020 to 2038, provision will be made to deliver at least 131.7ha of employment land across North Lincolnshire.

A.134 Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2012-2036. Central Lincolnshire is situated to the south of North East Lincolnshire within Lincolnshire County Council. The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2012-2036 was adopted by the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee on 24th April 2017 and it now replaces the Local Plans of the City of Lincoln, West Lindsey and North Kesteven District Councils. The Local Plan sets a housing requirement of 1,540 dwellings per annum between 2012 to 2036 resulting in a total dwelling requirement of 36,960 dwellings. In terms of employment, the Local Plan aims to create 11,894 FTE new jobs. The Local Plan has identified 111.1ha of strategic employment land (most of which has consent).

A.135 The Local Plan Review was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in July 2022 and, once adopted, will replace the current Local Plan. The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review Proposed Submission document (March 2022) is currently at Main Modifications stage with consultation running from 13th January to 24th February 2023. The Local Plan Review aims to deliver 23,320 to 29,150 dwellings between 2018 and 2040 which will include 12,000 affordable homes. Due to the oversupply in employment land from the previous Local Plan, the Local Plan Review is not allocating any additional employment land.

A.136 East Lindsey Local Plan Core Strategy 2018 is situated to the south of North East Lincolnshire within Lincolnshire County Council. The East Lindsey Core Strategy was adopted on 18th July 2018. The Core Strategy sets out the vision and strategic policies for the growth and development of the District up to 2031. The Local Plan sets a total housing requirement of 7,819 homes between 2017 to 2031. The Council has established the need for inland employment totalling of 24ha of additional land for employment through its Employment Sites Review 2016. The following has been allocated in the Local Plan:

- Alford – 1ha
- Coningsby/Tattershall – 1ha

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- Horncastle – 5ha
- Spilsby – 3ha
- Louth –14ha

A.137 Development will be supported for B1, B2 and B8 uses.

Appendix B

Site Assessment Criteria and Assumptions

Assumptions Regarding Distances

B.1 A number of the appraisal assumptions refer to accessibility from site options to services, facilities, employment etc. There are a number of pieces of research that give a variety of recommended guidance distances for walking. For example, the Institute of Highways and Transportation found that the average length of a walk journey is one kilometre. The Institute of Highways and Transportation categorises distances depending upon location and purpose of the trip, and 'desirable', 'acceptable', and 'preferred maximum':

Town Centres

- Desirable – 200m
- Acceptable – 400m
- Preferred maximum – 800m

Commuting/School/Sight-seeing

- Desirable – 500m
- Acceptable – 1,000m
- Preferred maximum – 2,000

Elsewhere

- Desirable – 400m
- Acceptable – 800m
- Preferred maximum – 1,200m

B.2 For the purposes of the appraisal, distances in the appraisal will be measured as the straight line distance from the edge of the site option to existing services and facilities, and therefore actual walking distances are likely to be greater (depending on the availability of a direct route).

B.3 It is recognised that many journeys to services and facilities will not be made in a straight line. When applying the Institute of Highways and Transportation distances for the appraisal of site options to each of the relevant distances a 10% buffer has therefore been applied to account for the potential difference between the straight line distance and the actual distance involved in a journey to services and facilities. For example, the relevant distance applied for walking distance for town and local centres has been decreased from 800m to 720m, and so on.

B.4 It is considered that this is a reasonable approach, and professional judgement will be used when applying these distances to each site option and the range of services and facilities considered by the appraisal (e.g. where there are significant barriers to straight-line movement, such as railway lines). The distances used in the appraisal will vary depending upon the type of destination being accessed and the mode of transport:

- 450m walking distance for primary schools on the basis that parents with young children are unlikely to want long distances with young children;
- 900m walking distance for secondary schools;
- 720m walking distance for town and local centres;
- 450m to a bus stop, as many people are unlikely to want to walk much further and then catch a bus to their destination;

- 1,800m walking distance to a train station; and
- In terms of access to cycle route, a distance of 450m will be used in the appraisal on the assumption that links to cycle routes are likely to use road carriageways.

SA Objective 1: Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change

All Development Site Options

B.5 The location of development will not affect the achievement of this objective as effects will depend largely on the detailed proposals for sites and their design, which would be influenced by policies in the Local Plan Review and details submitted at the planning application stage. The extent to which the location of development sites would facilitate the use of sustainable modes of transport in place of cars is considered separately under SA objective 15, and the effects of site options on flood risk is considered separately under SA objective 9. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible (0).

SA Objective 2: Achieve efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land

All Development Site Options

B.6 Development on brownfield and derelict land represents more efficient use of land in comparison to the development of greenfield sites. Where development takes place on previously developed land, land of agricultural and mineral value is less likely to be lost and there may be opportunities to reuse onsite buildings and materials, thereby reducing waste generation.

- Greenfield sites that contain a significant proportion ($\geq 25\%$) of Grade 1 and/or 2 agricultural land will have a significant negative (--) effect.
- Greenfield sites that contain a significant proportion ($\geq 25\%$) of Grade 3 agricultural land will have a potential but uncertain significant negative (--?) effect. The uncertainty acknowledges that the Grade 3 agricultural land may still represent some of the county's best and most versatile agricultural land (Grade 3a) or it may be the lower quality Grade 3b land.
- Greenfield sites that contain less than a less than significant proportion ($< 25\%$) of Grade 1, 2 or 3 agricultural land will have a minor negative (-) effect.
- Sites that are located on brownfield or derelict land will have a significant positive (++) effect.

SA Objective 3: Maintain and improve a quality built environment, and preserve historic assets

All Development Site Options

B.7 The NPPF states that “When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be)”. However, development could also enhance the significance of the asset (provided that the development preserves those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to or better reveal the significance of the asset).

B.8 Designated heritage assets include listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, protected wreck sites and registered battlefields.

B.9 In all cases, effects will be uncertain at this stage as the potential for negative or positive effects on historic and heritage assets will depend on the exact scale, design and layout of the new development and opportunities which may exist to enhance the setting of heritage features (e.g. where sympathetic development replaces a derelict brownfield site which is currently having an adverse effect).

B.10 In the absence of this information the following precautionary assumptions have been applied as an indication of potential effects on historic and heritage assets from development of any of the site options (if other heritage-related evidence becomes available later in the SA process this will be superseded):

- Where a site is more than 500m from the nearest designated heritage asset, it will have a negligible effect (0?), although this is uncertain as

there is still some potential for impacts on non-designated heritage features and effects may extend beyond 500m in some cases.

B.11 Where a site option is within 500m of a designated heritage asset, professional judgement and evidence (such as Conservation Area Appraisals, heritage assessment work undertaken to support the Local Plan Review and input from conservation specialists) will be used to inform judgements. Where there are potential impacts on multiple heritage assets this will also be taken into account.

- Sites which have potential for heritage assets to be enhanced and their significance to be better revealed will have a minor positive (+?) or significant positive (++?) effect on this objective.
- Sites which are unlikely to cause adverse impacts on heritage assets will have a negligible (0?) effect on this objective.
- Sites which have the potential to cause harm to heritage assets, but can be mitigated, will have a minor negative (-?) effect on this objective.
- Sites which have the potential to cause harm to heritage assets where it is unlikely that these can be adequately mitigated will have a significant negative (--?) effect on this objective.

SA Objective 4: Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment

All Development Site Options

B.12 Development sites that are within close proximity of an international, national or local designated conservation site have the potential to affect the biodiversity or geodiversity of those sites/features, e.g. through habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased

Appendix B Site Assessment Criteria and Assumptions

recreation pressure etc. Conversely, there may be opportunities to promote habitat connectivity if new developments include green infrastructure. Therefore, while proximity to designated sites provides an indication of the potential for an adverse effect, uncertainty exists, as appropriate mitigation may avoid adverse effects and may even result in beneficial effects. In addition, the potential impacts on biodiversity present on each site, or undesignated habitats and species adjacent to the potential development sites, cannot be determined at this strategic level of assessment. This would be determined once more specific proposals are developed and submitted as part of a planning application.

- Sites that are within 250m of one or more internationally or nationally designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites may have a significant negative (--?) effect.
- Sites that are between 250m and 1km of one or more internationally or nationally designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites, or that are within 250m of a locally designated site may have a minor negative (-?) effect.
- Sites that are more than 1km from any internationally or nationally designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites, or that are over 250m from a locally designated site could have a negligible (0?) effect.

B.13 In addition:

- Site options that contain an existing green infrastructure asset that could be lost as a result of new development may have a significant negative effect (--?) although this is currently uncertain as it may be possible to conserve or even enhance that asset through the design and layout of the new development.

SA Objective 5: Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

All Development Site Options

B.14 Development sites that are within, or directly connected via road, to the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) that has been declared at Grimsby, or AQMAs in surrounding Districts, could increase levels of air pollution in those areas as a result of increased vehicle traffic. Therefore:

- Site options that are within or have a direct road link to an AQMA are likely to have a significant negative (--) effect.
- Site options that are not within or directly connected via road to an AQMA are likely to have a negligible (0) effect on air quality.

SA Objective 6: Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources

All Development Site Options

B.15 While all new development will inevitably involve an increase in energy consumption, it may offer good opportunities for incorporating renewable energy generation and it is assumed that new development will be built to standards of energy efficiency required under the Building Regulations. However, the effects of new development on efficient energy consumption will not be determined by its location. Similarly, effects of development on water use and quantity will depend on factors such as water availability in the area, which cannot be

determined at this strategic level of assessment on the basis of the location of individual development sites.

B.16 All new development will result in the increased consumption of minerals for construction but this will not be influenced by the location of the development. The location of development sites can, however, influence the efficient use of minerals as development in Minerals Safeguarding Areas may sterilise mineral resources and restrict the availability of resources in the Districts. Therefore:

- Sites that fall within a Minerals Safeguarding Area could have a minor negative (-?) effect although this is uncertain.
- Sites that do not fall within a Minerals Safeguarding Area are expected to have a negligible (0) effect.

SA Objective 7: Reduce waste generation and increase levels of reuse and recycling

All Development Site Options

B.17 The effects of development site options on minimising waste and manage it sustainably will depend on factors such as the incorporation of waste management systems and recycling within development site options. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site) and so the effects of all of the potential development site options on this SA objective will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 8: Maintain and improve water quality

All Development Site Options

B.18 Effects of development on water quality will depend on factors such as the capacity of existing sewage treatment works to accommodate additional demand from new development, which cannot be determined at this stage on the basis of the location of individual development sites. While it will be necessary to ensure that sensitive watercourses, source protection zones or aquifers are not adversely affected by new development, the proximity of development site options to these features cannot be used to assume the likelihood of affects. Therefore, all sites will have a negligible (0) effect on this objective.

SA Objective 9: Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and the natural environment

All Development Site Options

B.19 The effects of new development on this SA objective will depend to some extent on its design, for example whether it incorporates sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), which is unknown and cannot be addressed based on the location of the sites. Where site options are located in areas of high flood risk, it could increase the risk of flooding in those areas (particularly if the sites are not previously developed) and would increase the number of people and assets at risk from flooding. Therefore:

Appendix B Site Assessment Criteria and Assumptions

- Site options that are entirely or significantly (i.e. $\geq 25\%$) within Flood Zone 3 and/or within an area with a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding will have a significant negative (--) effect.
- Site options that are entirely or significantly (i.e. $\geq 25\%$) within Flood Zone 2 and/or contain land with a 1 in 100 year risk of surface water flooding will have a minor negative (-) effect.
- Site options that are entirely or largely ($\geq 75\%$) within Flood Zone 1 will have a negligible (0) effect on the assumption that flood risk could be avoided.

SA Objective 10: Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

All Development Site Options

B.20 The location of new development will affect social inclusion by influencing how easily people are able to access job opportunities, services and facilities etc. However, these factors are assessed under other SA objectives; therefore all sites will have a negligible (0) effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective 11: Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire's population

Residential Site Options

B.21 Housing sites that are within walking distance (720m) of existing health services and facilities will ensure that residents have good access to healthcare, while close proximity to open spaces and footpaths and cycle routes may encourage residents to lead more active lifestyles and to make more journeys on foot or by bicycle, thus promoting healthy lifestyles.

B.22 If a housing site is within (or adjacent to) an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) there could be a resulting impact on health, particularly if vehicle movements associated with the new development compound existing air quality problems.

B.23 Therefore:

- Sites that are within walking distance (720m) of a healthcare facility, an area of open space and at least one footpath/cycle path will have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are within walking distance (720m) of either a healthcare facility, an area of open space or footpath/cycle path will have a minor positive (+) effect.
- Sites that are more than 720m from either a healthcare facility, an area of open space or footpath/cycle paths will have a minor negative (-) effect.

B.24 In addition (which may lead to mixed effects with the above):

- Sites that are within or adjacent to an AQMA may have a minor negative effect, although this is uncertain (-?).

Employment Site Options

B.25 Employment sites that are within walking distance (720m) of existing open spaces, footpaths and cycle routes will ensure that employees have good access to walking and cycle links which may encourage them to commute on foot or by bicycle and to be active outdoors in open space during breaks from work, thus promoting healthy lifestyles. If an employment site is within (or adjacent to) an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) there could be an impact on health, particularly if vehicle movements (including potentially HGVs) associated with the new employment development compound existing air quality problems.

- Sites that are within 720m of an area of open space and at least one footpath/cycle path will have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are within 720m of either an area of open space or footpath/cycle path will have a minor positive (+) effect.
- Sites that are more than 720m from either an area of open space or footpath/cycle paths will have a minor negative (-) effect.

B.26 In addition (which may lead to mixed effects with the above):

- Sites that are within or adjacent to an AQMA may have a minor negative effect, although this is uncertain (-?).

SA Objective 12: Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

All Development Site Options

B.27 The effects of new developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the

development sites which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site) and so the effects of all of the potential sites on this SA objective will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 13: Create vibrant communities

Housing Site Options

B.28 The location of development sites will not have a significant effect on this objective. Where there are community centres within close proximity of new housing, it may be easier for community and voluntary groups to access space for meetings and other activities. Access to other services and facilities is addressed under SA objective 14. Therefore, all housing site options will have a negligible (0) effect on this objective.

Employment Site Options

B.29 The location of employment sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect of all sites will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 14: Ensure equal access to services, facilities and opportunities for all

Housing Site Options

B.30 The proximity of sites to larger towns and villages will affect the need for residents to travel long distances on a regular basis to access services and facilities. Therefore:

- Sites that are at Grimsby or Cleethorpes will have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are within 720m of the built-up area of a Local Service Centre will have a minor positive (+) effect.
- Sites that are within 720m of the built-up area of a Rural Settlement will have an uncertain negligible (0) effect.
- Sites that are not located within 720m of the built-up areas of any of the settlement types listed above will have a minor negative (-) effect.

Employment Site Options

B.31 While employment sites are not expected to have a significant effect on this objective, where employment sites are within walking distance (720m) of a town, as set out in the settlement hierarchy of the adopted Local Plan, services and facilities employees will be more easily accessible to employees during breaks and before and after work.

- Sites that are within 720m of the built-up area of Grimsby or Cleethorpes will have a minor positive (+) effect.

- Sites that are not located within 720m of the built-up areas of Grimsby or Cleethorpes will have a negligible (0) effect.

SA Objective 15: Promote sustainable transport

Residential and Employment Site Options

B.32 The proximity of development sites to sustainable transport links will affect the extent to which people are able to make use of non-car based modes of transport to access services, facilities and job opportunities, although the actual use of sustainable transport modes will depend on people's behaviour. It is possible that new transport links such as bus routes or cycle paths may be provided as part of new developments, particularly at larger sites, but this cannot be assumed.

B.33 It is assumed that people would generally be willing to travel further to access a railway station than a bus stop, although the limited rail infrastructure in the plan area is recognised. It is also recognised that many cyclists will travel on roads as well as dedicated cycle routes, and that the extent to which people choose to do so will depend on factors such as the availability of cycle storage facilities at their end destination, which are not determined by the location of sites. How safe or appealing particular roads are for cyclists cannot be determined at this strategic level of assessment. However, the proximity of site options to existing cycle routes can be taken as an indicator of how likely people are to cycle to or from a development site.

- Sites that are within 1.8km of a railway station, and that are within 450m of at least one of either a bus stop or a cycle path, are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are more than 1.8km from a railway station but are within 450m of a bus stop and cycle path are likely to have a minor positive (+) effect.

- Sites that are more than 1.8km from a railway station but are within 450m of a bus stop or cycle path (but not both) are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.
- Sites that are more than 1.8km from a railway station and more than 450m from a bus stop and cycle route could have a minor negative (-) effect.

SA Objective 16: Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone

Residential Site Options

B.34 All of the residential site options are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development. The location of site options will not influence the mix of housing that is provided onsite – this will instead be determined by Local Plan policies. However, it is expected that sites of a larger size may be able to offer a wider mix of housing, including affordable housing, as well as making a greater contribution towards local housing needs. A significant positive (++) effect is therefore recorded for residential sites of 100 dwellings or more. A minor positive (+) effect is recorded for site options that would provide fewer than 100 dwellings.

Employment Site Options

B.35 The location of employment sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect for all employment site options will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 17: Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes

All Development Site Options

B.36 The location of new development will not affect the condition of public open spaces and parks, and the provision of new areas of open space will depend on the nature of development proposals and compliance with relevant Local Plan policies relating to open space provision.

B.37 Development in locations that have been assessed in the Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study as having low capacity to accommodate development could have adverse effects on the landscape.

- Sites that are in areas that have been assessed as having high capacity to accommodate development are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect by steering development away from the areas of highest landscape sensitivity.
- Sites that are in areas that have been assessed as having high-medium capacity to accommodate development are likely to have a minor positive (+) effect.
- Sites that are in areas that have been assessed as having medium capacity to accommodate development are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.
- Sites that are in areas that have been assessed as having medium-low capacity to accommodate development are likely to have a minor negative (-) effect.
- Sites that are in areas that have been assessed as having low capacity to accommodate development are likely to have a significant negative (--) effect.

- Sites that are outside of the areas covered by the Landscape Character Assessment will have uncertain (?) effects.

B.38 In addition, proximity to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB can provide an indication of the potential for development to have adverse impacts on that designated landscape.

- Sites that are within 500m of the AONB could have a significant negative (-?) effect.

SA Objective 18: Good quality employment opportunities for everyone and supporting economic growth

Housing Site Options

B.39 The location of housing sites will not affect the local economy; therefore the effects of all residential sites will be negligible (0).

B.40 While the location of housing sites will not influence the number of employment opportunities in North East Lincolnshire, the proximity of housing to employment opportunities and public transport links can affect people's ability to access jobs.

- Housing sites that are within walking distance (600m) of public transport links as well as one or more major employment sites will have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Housing sites that are within walking distance (600m) of either public transport links or one or more major employment sites will have a minor positive (+) effect.

- Housing sites that are not within walking distance (600m) of either public transport links or one or more major employment sites will have a minor negative (-) effect.

B.41 Due to uncertainties regarding which sites will be allocated for employment in the Local Plan Review, the location of employment site options in relation to housing site options is not taken into account in the appraisal.

Employment Site Options

B.42 The provision of new employment sites is likely to have a positive effect on this objective by ensuring that new job opportunities are provided to match the population growth that will result from housing development through other residential site allocations. Furthermore, the provision of new employment sites is likely to have a positive effect on this objective by providing new and modern developments in which businesses can locate.

- Large sites (over 10ha) are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Small sites (up to 10ha) are likely to have a minor positive effect.

SA Objective 19: Provide good education and training opportunities

Housing Site Options

B.43 The effects of housing development on this objective will depend on the availability of school and college places to serve the growing population, which will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of the new housing development, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on the proximity of sites to existing schools and colleges, although there are

uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.

- Sites that are within 600m of at least two of either a pre-school, a primary school, a secondary school or a college may have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are within 600m of one of either a primary or secondary school or a college may have a minor positive effect (+?).
- Sites that are more than 600m from any school or college may have a negative effect (-?).

Employment Site Options

B.44 The effects of new employment development on this objective are likely to be positive as it should result in improved opportunities for work-based training and skills development. However, this is uncertain as effects will depend on whether the employment opportunities provided also involve training opportunities. Additionally, it is acknowledged that some smaller sites offer start up accommodation and more flexible options. However, the size of the employment site is considered likely to affect achievement of the objective as larger sites are likely to offer particularly good opportunities for higher numbers of people to obtain new skills and training opportunities.

- Large sites (over 5ha) may have a significant positive (++) effect on this objective.
- Small sites (less than 5ha) may have a minor positive (+?) effect on this objective.

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Bristol

12th Floor, Colston Tower, Colston Street, Bristol BS1 4XE
0117 929 1997
bristol@landuse.co.uk

Cardiff

16A, 15th Floor, BruNorth East Lincolnshire House, 2 Fitzalan Rd, Cardiff CF24
0EB
0292 032 9006
cardiff@landuse.co.uk

Edinburgh

Atholl Exchange, 6 Canning Street, Edinburgh EH3 8EG
0131 202 1616
edinburgh@landuse.co.uk

Glasgow

37 Otago Street, Glasgow G12 8JJ
0141 334 9595
glasgow@landuse.co.uk

London

250 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8RD
020 7383 5784
london@landuse.co.uk

Manchester

6th Floor, 55 King Street, Manchester M2 4LQ
0161 537 5960
manchester@landuse.co.uk

Landscape Design/Strategic Planning and Assessment
Development Planning/Urban Design and Masterplanning
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Landscape Management/Ecology/Historic Environment/GIS and Visualisation