

The meeting of the Transport, Infrastructure and Housing Scrutiny Panel held on 8th September 2026, made the following comments.

To: Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport

BACKGROUND

The panel received a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking approval to commence public consultation on the draft Local Plan.

SPTIH.18 PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT LOCAL PLAN - PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Following a detailed report, the panel was invited to comment on the draft Local Plan and the proposed referral of the Plan for Regulation 19 consultation to Full Council. The Panel sought clarification on a number of issues, including the following:

- How public feedback from the Regulation 18 consultation shaped the Regulation 19 draft.
- The spatial strategy focuses on growth around urban areas to utilise existing infrastructure.
- Why the plan only adopts the statutory minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain.
- Whether developers have the ability to use viability escape clauses to avoid Section 106 infrastructure and affordable housing contributions.
- Surface water and contaminated runoff entering local watercourses and the docks waters that was used for recreation.
- A disconnect between ambitious job creation targets and an ageing population profile driven by inward-migrating retirees.
- The high local need for affordable housing.
- The absence in the draft plan of specific Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) density and parking restrictions.

Officers present responded.

The panel received representations from Councillors Aisthorpe on the proposed housing allocation on land bordering Weelsby Woods and from Councillor Downes on the proposed housing allocation on land west of Laceby Acres.

The panel provided detailed challenge and remained concerned about certain housing sites identified within the draft Local Plan, as well as biodiversity net gain, restrictions on HMOs and water outfalls into rivers. Although the Panel supported the recommendations in the report, including the revised recommendation circulated at the meeting, it also agreed to recommend the following additional matters to Cabinet for consideration:

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET

- 1) *That the proposed Strategic Site SH1 (Ref HOU342, Land west of Laceby Acres and*



Recommends ...

Wybers Wood, Grimsby) is removed from the draft local plan in its current format at this time.

This was proposed by Councillor Bright and seconded by Councillor Mills. The proposal was put to a vote and, with 4 for, 2 against and 2 abstentions, it was carried.

- 2) *That the Biodiversity Net Gain requirement be increased from the statutory 10% to 15%.*

This was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Bright. The proposal was put to a vote and, with 4 for, 3 against and 1 abstention, it was carried.

- 3) *That within the relevant section of the draft Local Plan, appropriate policy wording to be included to manage the concentration, density and parking impact of HMO's.*

This was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Crofts. The proposal was put to a vote and, with 7 for, 0 against and 1 abstention, it was carried.

- 4) *That it be noted within the draft Local Plan that any outfalls from developments into rivers should be clean water.*

This was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Crofts. The proposal was put to a vote and, with 7 for, 0 against and 1 abstention, it was carried.

- 5) *That the draft Local Plan includes a requirement for updated Conservation Area Appraisals.*

This was proposed by Councillor Bright and seconded by Councillor Mills. The proposal was put to a vote and was carried unanimously.

- 6) *That the proposed allocated sites HOU287A, HOU338, HOU384 and HOU374 be removed from the draft local plan.*

This was proposed by Councillor Jackson and seconded by Councillor Crofts. The proposal was put to a vote and, with 2 for, 1 against and 5 abstentions, it was carried.

The recommendations reflect the views of the Panel and are referred to Cabinet for consideration. Any response to the recommendations will need to take account of the statutory plan-making process, the evidence base, consultation requirements and advice from officers.

Scrutiny Chair: Councillor Mill

If you require any further information, please contact: Beverly O'Brien (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)

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