North East Lincolnshire Local Plan: Pre-Submission Draft

Sustainability Appraisal

North East Lincolnshire Council

Final report

Prepared by LUC

September 2026

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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 new North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. Once adopted, the Local Plan will replace the current North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013-2032. The new Local Plan will set the planning framework for North East Lincolnshire looking forward to 2043 and beyond and will set out policies and proposals to address housing needs and other economic, social and environmental issues. This SA report relates to the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan and it should be read in conjunction with that document.

The Plan Area

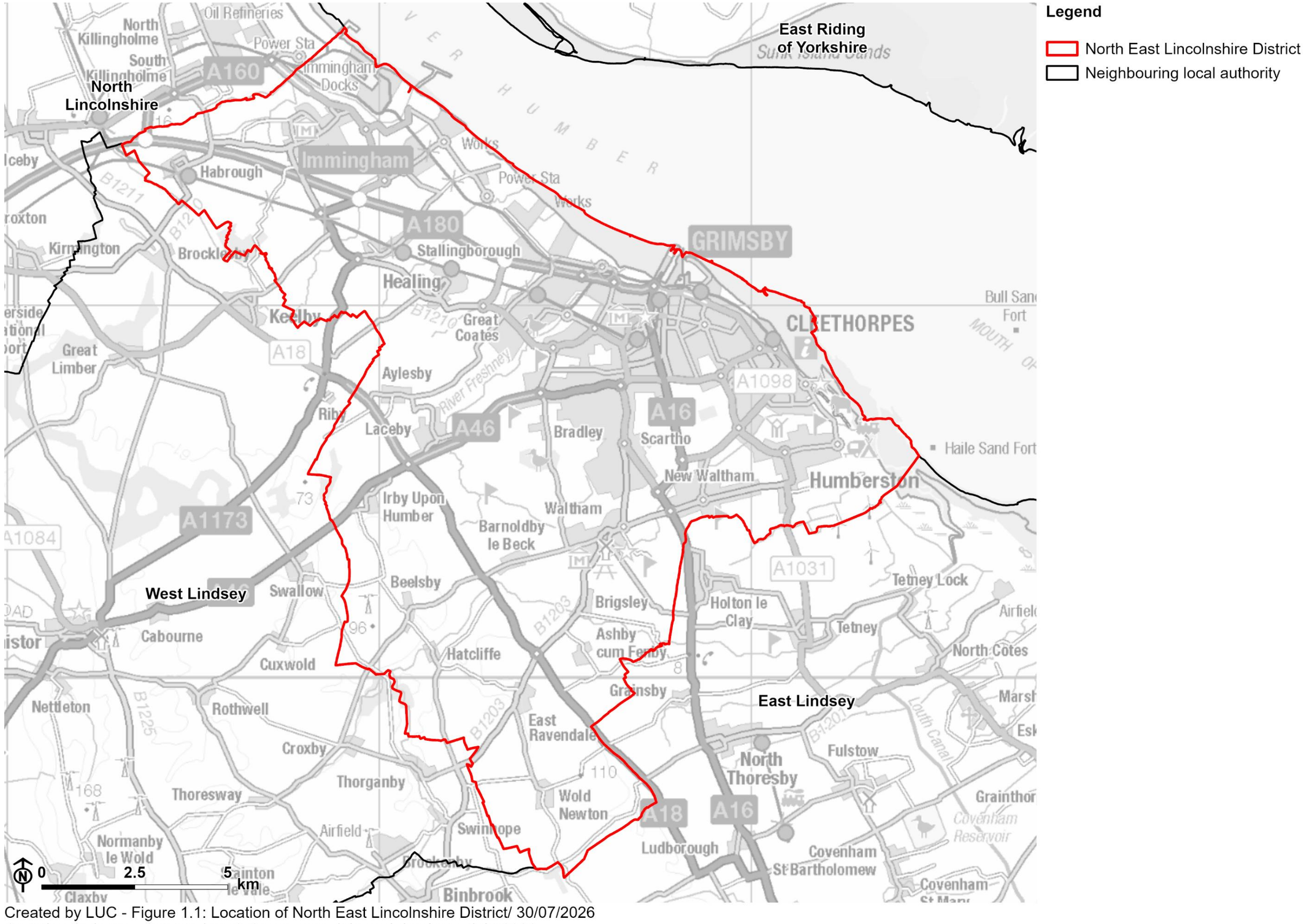
1.2 North East Lincolnshire covers an area of 192km^2 and is located on the east coast of England, between North Lincolnshire to the north-west, West Lindsey to the west and East Lindsey to the south. The north-eastern boundary of North East Lincolnshire is formed by the Humber Estuary.

1.3 North East Lincolnshire has a population of 159,911 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.

1.4 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 National Landscape (formerly referred to as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or AONB) where the landscape comprises a large open plateau of rolling hills and valleys.

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

Figure 1.1: Location of North East Lincolnshire



Created by LUC - Figure 1.1: Location of North East Lincolnshire District/ 30/07/2026
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North East Lincolnshire Local Plan

1.6 North East Lincolnshire Council is preparing a new Local Plan which, once adopted, will replace the current adopted North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013-2032. The new Local Plan will set the planning framework for North East Lincolnshire looking forward to 2043 and beyond. North East Lincolnshire Council consulted on a Scoping and Issues Paper between September and November 2022. The Scoping and Issues Paper explained what the Council believes are the main issues facing North East Lincolnshire. The consultation also included a Call for Sites which informs the preparation of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) document, the Brownfield Land Register and potential site allocations in the Local Plan. The outcomes of that consultation in turn fed into the preparation of the Draft Local Plan, which was published for Regulation 18 consultation between December 2023 and March 2024. Following this, the Council undertook a second Regulation 18 consultation between December 2025 and February 2026 on the Preferred Housing and Employment Site Options.

1.7 Between the first and second Regulation 18 consultations, an updated version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in December 2024 which introduced significant changes that must be reflected in Local Plans, including an updated way to calculate housing need using the 'standard method'. This means that North East Lincolnshire Council is now required to plan for significantly more homes than previously anticipated. Drawing on a comprehensive update to evidence of housing and employment needs (the Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment), the second Regulation 18 consultation identified the sites that the Council considered to be suitable for allocation, and capable of delivering the required number of new homes and jobs over the plan period.

1.8 The outcomes of these earlier consultations have fed into the development of the current Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan.

A further update to the NPPF was published very recently, in August 2026. However, as the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is being prepared under the December 2024 NPPF, references to the NPPF in this report should be taken as referring to that version.

Structure of the Pre-Submission Draft North East Lincolnshire

1.9 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan consultation document sets out ten strategic objectives which will support the delivery of the overarching Vision for North East Lincolnshire. The objectives are to be delivered by the policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, which is structured as follows:

- Requirements
  - Draft Strategic Policy 1: Employment land requirements
  - Draft Strategic Policy 2: The housing requirement and delivery
- Strategic objectives
- Spatial Strategy
  - Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement hierarchy
  - Draft Strategic Policy 4: Distribution of housing growth
  - Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries
  - Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges
  - Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure
- Climate change, flooding and energy
  - Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk
  - Draft Policy 1: Water management
  - Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure
  - Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living
- The Natural Environment
  - Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing
  - Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network
  - Draft Policy 4: Landscape
  - Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation
  - Draft Policy 6: Biodiversity and geodiversity
  - Draft Policy 7: Habitat mitigation - South Humber Bank
- Design and Amenity

- Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments
- Draft Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport
- Draft Policy 10: Parking provision

- Employment
  - Draft Policy 11: Employment allocations
  - Draft Policy 12: Existing employment areas
  - Draft Policy 13: Skills and training
  - Draft Policy 14: Tourism and the visitor economy
- Housing
  - Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations
  - Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites
  - Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing
  - Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions
  - Draft Policy 18: Housing mix
  - Draft Policy 19: Self-build and custom build housing
  - Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers
- Town centres, social and cultural places
  - Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy
  - Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses
  - Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places
- Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure
  - Draft Policy 23: Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure
  - Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates
  - Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (Minerals)
- Providing for Waste
  - Draft Policy 26: Waste facility requirements
  - Draft Strategic Policy 14: Safeguarding waste facilities and related infrastructure
  - Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (Waste)

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.10 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, SA is mandatory for Development Plan Documents. For these documents it is also necessary to conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations (as amended) **[See reference 2]**. The SEA Regulations remain in force post-Brexit and it is a legal requirement for the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan to be subject to SA and SEA throughout its preparation. SA and SEA are tools used at the plan-making stage to assess the likely effects of the plan when judged against reasonable alternatives. SEA considers only the environmental effects of a plan, while SA considers the plan's wider economic and social effects in addition to its potential environmental impacts. SA should meet all of the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, so a separate SEA should not be required. An approach which satisfies the requirements for both SA and SEA is advocated in the Government's Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) **[See reference 3]**. Practitioners can comply with the requirements of the SEA Regulations through a single integrated SA process – this is the process that is being undertaken by North East Lincolnshire Council. From here on, the term 'SA' should therefore be taken to mean 'SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Regulations'.

1.11 In October 2023, the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill received royal assent. The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 outlines a number of reforms to the planning system, including the replacement of the current SEA regime with a new requirement for an Environmental Outcomes Report (EOR). 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 is prepared.

1.12 The SA process comprises a number of stages, 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 plan and the SA Report.

- Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the plan.

Meeting the requirements of the SEA Regulations

1.13 The section below signposts the relevant sections of this SA Report that are considered to meet the SEA Regulations requirements.

Environmental Report

1.14 This SA Report, which has been produced to accompany consultation on the preferred housing and employment site options, constitutes the 'environmental report' and covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

- Regulation 12(1) and (2) and Schedule 2: Where an environmental assessment is required by any provision of Part 2 of these Regulations, the responsible Authority shall prepare, or secure the preparation of, an environmental report in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) of this regulation. The report shall identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of:
  - Implementing the plan or programme; and
  - Reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme.

1.15 Chapter 1, Chapter 3, Appendix B and Appendix C cover the following SEA Regulations requirements:

- An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.
- The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.
- The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.
- Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild bird and the Habitats Directive.
- The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme

and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during it preparation.

1.16 Chapter 4, Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 cover the following SEA Regulations requirements:

- 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:
  - Biodiversity;
  - Population;
  - Human health;
  - Fauna;
  - Flora;
  - Soil;
  - Water;
  - Air;
  - Climatic factors;
  - Material assets;
  - Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;
  - Landscape; and
  - The interrelationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l).
- 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.

1.17 Chapter 2 covers the following SEA Regulation requirement:

- 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.

1.18 Chapter 8 covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

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

1.19 A separate Non-Technical Summary document has been prepared to accompany this SA report and this covers the following SEA Regulation requirement:

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

1.20 The Environmental Report at each stage of the SA will adhere to the following SEA Regulation requirement:

- Regulation 12(3): 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.

Consultation

1.21 The SA Scoping Report was produced by LUC on behalf of North East Lincolnshire Council and consulted on between February and March 2023. The responses received are summarised in Appendix A. This covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

- Regulation 12(5): 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.

1.22 Consultation on the Draft Local Plan took place from December 2023, accompanied by an SA report. Consultation on the preferred housing and employment site options for the Local Plan took place from December 2025 and was again accompanied by an SA Report. Consultation is now taking place on the Pre-Submission Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan, accompanied by this SA report. This covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

- Regulation 13: Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the

accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme.

1.23 The North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is not expected to have significant effects on other EU Member States. This covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

- Regulation 14: Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country.

Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (relevant extracts of Regulation 16)

1.24 The following SEA Regulations requirement is to be addressed after the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is adopted:

- Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Regulation 14 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed:
  - The plan or programme as adopted;
  - A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report, the opinions expressed, and the results of consultations entered into have been taken into account, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
  - The measures decided concerning monitoring.

Monitoring

1.25 Chapter 8 proposes indicators for monitoring the likely significant effects of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan and this covers the following SEA Regulations requirement:

- Regulation 17(1): 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.

Structure of the SA Report

1.26 This chapter has described the background to the production of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan and the requirement to undertake SA. The remainder of this SA Report is structured into the following sections:

- Chapter 2 describes the approach that is being taken to the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan.
- Chapter 3 describes the relationship between the Local Plan and other relevant plans, policies and programmes; summarises the social, economic and environmental characteristics of North East Lincolnshire and identifies the key sustainability issues it faces.
- Chapter 4 presents the SA findings for the strategic options that have been considered for the Local Plan.
- Chapter 5 presents the SA findings for that the site options that have been considered for allocation in the Local Plan.
- Chapter 6 presents the SA findings for the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan.
- Chapter 7 presents the cumulative effects of all policies and site allocations in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan.
- Chapter 8 describes suggested indicators for monitoring the potential sustainability effects of the Local Plan.
- Chapter 9 presents the conclusions of the SA of the current consultation document and describes the next steps to be undertaken.
- Appendix A presents a summary of the consultation comments received in relation to previous SA reports and explains how they have been addressed.
- Appendix B presents a review of international, national and local plans, policies and programmes of relevance to the SA.
- Appendix C presents baseline information for North East Lincolnshire.
- Appendix D presents the site assessment criteria that have been used to ensure consistency in the SA of the reasonable alternative site options.

Chapter 2
Methodology

2.1 In addition to complying with legal requirements, the approach being taken to the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is based on current good practice and the guidance on SA/SEA set out in the Government's Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). This calls for SA to be carried out as an integral part of the plan-making process.

2.2 The sections below describe the approach that has been taken to the SA of the Local Plan to date and provide information on the subsequent stages of the process.

SA Stage A: Scoping

2.3 The Scoping stage of SA involves understanding the social, economic and environmental baseline for the plan area as well as the sustainability policy context and key sustainability issues, and using these to inform the appraisal framework as follows.

Review other relevant policies, plans and programmes to establish policy context

2.4 A Local Plan is not prepared in isolation; rather it is prepared within the context of other policies, plans and programmes. The SEA Regulations require the Environmental Report to describe the relationship of the plan with other relevant plans and programmes. It should also be consistent with environmental protection legislation and support the attainment of sustainability objectives that have been established at the international, national, and regional/sub-regional levels.

2.5 A review was therefore undertaken of other policies, plans, and programmes at the international, national, regional and sub-regional levels that were considered to be relevant to the scope of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. This review was originally presented in the SA Scoping Report and has been updated as part of the preparation of the subsequent SA reports. A small number of changes were also made in response to consultation responses received in relation to the Scoping Report, as detailed in Appendix A.

The up-to-date version is presented in full in Appendix B and is summarised in Chapter 3.

Collect baseline information to establish sustainability context

2.6 Information on existing environmental, social and economic conditions in the plan area provides the baseline against which the plan's effects can be assessed in the SA and monitored during the plan's implementation.

2.7 Baseline information can also be combined with an understanding of drivers of change that are likely to persist regardless of the plan to understand the likely future sustainability conditions in the absence of the plan.

2.8 The SEA Regulations require the Environmental Report to describe relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and how they are likely to evolve without the plan. An understanding of this likely future, together with the assessed effects of the plan itself, allows the SA to report on the likely cumulative effects of the plan, which is another requirement of the SEA Regulations.

2.9 The SEA Regulations require an assessment of effects in relation to the following 'SEA topics': biodiversity, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage), landscape, and the inter-relationship between these. Baseline information was therefore collected in relation to these SEA topics as well as additional sustainability topics covering broader socio-economic issues such as housing, access to services, crime and safety, education and employment. This reflects the integrated approach that is being taken to the SA and SEA processes. As part of the preparation of each iteration of the SA Report, the baseline information for North East Lincolnshire which was originally presented in the SA Scoping Report has been reviewed and updated where possible. A small number of changes were also made in response to consultation responses received in relation to the Scoping Report, as detailed in Appendix A. The up-to-date baseline information is presented in Appendix C.

Identify key sustainability issues

2.10 The baseline information allows for the identification of existing sustainability issues, including problems as required by the SEA Regulations.

2.11 Key sustainability issues facing North East Lincolnshire and an analysis of their likely evolution without the Local Plan are detailed in Chapter 3. Key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire were originally identified in the SA Scoping Report. These issues were revised to take into account consultation responses received at the Scoping stage (see Appendix A) and have been further reviewed as part of the preparation of the subsequent SA reports to ensure that they remain up to date and reflect the baseline information at each stage.

Develop the SA framework

2.12 The relevant sustainability objectives identified by the review of other policies, plans, and programmes, together with the key sustainability issues facing North East Lincolnshire identified by the collection and review of baseline information, helped to inform the development of a set of sustainability objectives (the 'SA framework') against which the effects of the Local Plan would be assessed.

2.13 Development of the SA framework is not a requirement of the SEA Regulations but is a recognised way in which the likely sustainability effects of a plan can be transparently and consistently described, analysed and compared. The SA framework comprises a series of sustainability objectives and supporting criteria that are used to guide the appraisal of the policies and proposals within a plan.

2.14 The SA framework for the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is presented in Chapter 3. The SA objectives reflect the analysis of international, national and local policy objectives, the baseline information and the key sustainability issues identified for North East Lincolnshire. The SA framework was originally presented in the Scoping Report and a small number of amendments were made to the framework in the December 2023 SA report as a result of Scoping consultation comments received (see Appendix A).

Consult on the scope and level of detail of the SA

2.15 Public and stakeholder participation is an important element of the SA and wider plan-making processes. It helps to ensure that the SA Report is robust and has due regard for all appropriate information that will support the plan in making a contribution to sustainable development.

2.16 The SEA Regulations require the statutory consultation bodies (the Environment Agency, Historic England, and Natural England) to be consulted "when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included" in the SA Report. The scope and level of detail of the SA is governed by the SA framework, which was consulted on with the statutory bodies through the consultation undertaken on the Scoping Report between February and March 2023.

2.17 Appendix A lists the comments that were received on the scope of the SA during this period of consultation and describes how each one was addressed. In light of the comments received, a number of amendments were made to baseline information, review of plans and programmes, site assessment criteria and a number of the SA objectives. These were reflected in the December 2023 SA report and have been carried through into subsequent iterations of the SA Report where they remain relevant.

SA Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects

2.18 Developing options for a plan is an iterative process, usually involving a number of consultations with the public and stakeholders. Consultation responses and the SA can help to identify where there may be other 'reasonable alternatives' to the options being considered for a plan.

2.19 In relation to the SA Report, Part 3 of the SEA Regulations 12 (2) requires that:

"The report must identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of—

- (a) implementing the plan or programme; and
- (b) reasonable alternatives, taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme."

2.20 Schedule 2 (h) of the SEA Regulations requires that the Environmental Report includes a description of:

- "(h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with."

2.21 The SEA Regulations require that the alternative policies considered for inclusion in a plan that must be subject to SA are 'reasonable', therefore alternatives that are not reasonable do not need to be subject to appraisal. Examples of unreasonable alternatives could include policy options that do not meet the objectives of the plan or national policy (e.g. the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)).

2.22 The SA findings are not the only factors taken into account when determining a favoured approach to take forward in a plan. Indeed, there will often be an equal number of positive or negative effects identified by the SA for each option, such that it is not possible to rank them based on sustainability performance in order to select a preferred choice. Factors such as public opinion, deliverability and conformity with national policy will also be taken into account by plan-makers when selecting favoured approaches for their plan. The following sections outline how the reasonable alternative options for the Local Plan, which are appraised in this report, have been identified.

Strategic options

2.23 North East Lincolnshire Council has identified and considered options relating to the housing and employment growth and the spatial strategy approaches for the Local Plan. These are currently considered by the Council to be the reasonable alternative options for meeting the need for development identified over the plan period:

- Employment Land requirement
  - Option A - Set the employment requirement aligned to the Experian Baseline projection, (net workforce jobs growth 4,600 over the plan period 2025-2043).
  - Option B – Set the employment requirement aligned to the 'Policy-On' position (net workforce jobs growth of 6,525 over the plan period 2025-2043).
- Spatial Distribution – Housing
  - Option A Urban Focus Inc SUE
  - Option B Greater arc Growth, excluding SUE
  - Option C Arc Constraint inc SUE
  - Option D Wider Distribution excluding SUE growth

2.24 No reasonable alternatives are considered to exist for the amount of housing development, for the reasons detailed in Chapter 4.

2.25 Options for these aspects of the Local Plan were originally appraised by LUC in August 2023 and the findings were provided to the Council in the form of an internal summary note, which was not made publicly available at the time, but which later formed the basis for Chapter 4 of the December 2023 SA Report. This provided the Council with the opportunity to take into account the SA findings, along with other relevant factors, when considering which option(s) to take forward in the Draft Local Plan.

2.26 The options have now been updated to reflect the latest evidence and are appraised in Chapter 4 of this SA Report.

2.27 Reasonable alternative options were also considered for a number of other policies, as detailed within Chapter 6.

Development Site Options

2.28 A series of site options were identified from a call for sites exercise undertaken by the Council between September and November 2022. These sites informed the preparation of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) document and the Brownfield Land Register and represented potential site allocations for the Local Plan.

2.29 As with the strategic options, the reasonable alternative site options were appraised by LUC in October 2023 and the findings were provided to the Council in the form of an internal summary note, which was not made publicly available at the time but which later formed the basis for Chapter 5 of the December 2023 SA Report for the Draft Local Plan.

2.30 Some changes were made to the suite of site options in Chapter 5 of the November 2025 SA Report, to incorporate new site options that were submitted through the previous consultation process and to remove sites that had since obtained planning permission. Further work on the SHLAA also led to the refinement of the options, for example some sites were removed because they had been built out or where there was evidence that alternative uses are being progressed.

2.31 As part of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan stage, a further five additional employment sites and one residential site option (due to a boundary change) were appraised in August 2026. In addition, all residential and

employment site options were re-appraised in relation to SA objective 3 to take account of the newly available data that distinguishes between Grade 3a and 3b agricultural land.

SA Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

2.32 This SA Report describes the process that has been undertaken to date in carrying out the SA of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. It sets out the SA findings for the policies and site allocations in the Pre-Submission Draft (Regulation 19) consultation document, as well as the reasonable alternative options considered. Likely significant effects, both positive and negative, have been presented, taking into account the likely secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term and permanent and temporary effects where relevant.

2.33 The SA findings are set out in Chapters 4, 5 and 6 of this SA Report along with recommendations for mitigating potential negative effects and maximising the potential benefits of the emerging Local Plan.

SA Stage D: Consultation on the Local Plan and the SA Report

2.34 Information about consultation that has already taken place at earlier stages of plan-making has been provided above. North East Lincolnshire Council is now inviting comments on the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. This SA Report is being published on the Council's website at the same time, so that the two documents can be read in parallel. Consultation comments received on this SA Report will be taken into account before the Local Plan is submitted for Examination.

SA Stage E: Monitoring Implementation of the Local Plan

2.35 Proposed indicators for monitoring the likely significant social, environmental and economic effects of implementing the North East Lincolnshire Plan are included in Chapter 8 of this SA Report.

Appraisal Methodology

2.36 Reasonable alternative options for the strategic policies and site allocations to be included in the Local Plan have been appraised against the SA objectives in the SA framework (see Chapter 3), with symbols being attributed to each option to indicate their likely effects on each SA objective as shown in Table 2.1. Where a potential positive or negative effect is uncertain, a question mark was added to the relevant symbol (e.g. +? or -?) and the symbol was colour coded in line with the potential positive, negligible or negative effect (e.g. green, yellow, orange, etc.).

2.37 The likely effects of options need to be determined and their significance assessed, which inevitably requires a series of judgments to be made. The appraisal has attempted to differentiate between the most significant effects and other more minor effects through the use of the symbols shown in Table 2.1. The dividing line in making a decision about the significance of an effect is often quite small. Where either (++) or (--) has been used to distinguish significant effects from more minor effects (+ or -) this is because the effect of an option or policy on the SA objective in question is considered to be of such magnitude that it will have a noticeable and measurable effect taking into account other factors that may influence the achievement of that objective.

Table 2.1: Key to symbols and colour coding used in the SA

Symbol and Colour Coding	Description
++	Significant positive effect likely.
++/-	Mixed significant positive and minor negative effects likely.
+	Minor positive effect likely.
+/-	Mixed minor effects likely.
++/--	Mixed significant effects likely.
-	Minor negative effect likely.
--/+	Mixed significant negative and minor positive effects likely.
--	Significant negative effect likely.

Symbol and Colour Coding	Description
0	Negligible effect likely.
?	Likely effect uncertain.

The use of site assessment criteria and uncertainty

2.38 SA inevitably relies on an element of subjective judgement. However, in order to ensure consistency in the appraisal of the site options, detailed sets of site assessment criteria were developed and applied. The criteria relate specifically to each type of site option (i.e. residential or employment sites) and set out clear parameters within which certain SA effects would be identified, based on factors such as the distance of site options from features such as biodiversity designations, public transport links and areas of high landscape sensitivity. The criteria are presented in Appendix D. They were applied mainly through the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) data.

Difficulties and Data Limitations

2.39 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."

2.40 A number of difficulties and limitations arose in the course of the SA as follows:

- There was a need to appraise a large number of site options consistently. In order to address this issue, detailed site assessment criteria relating to each of the SA objectives were developed and applied during the appraisal of site options (as described above).
- The site assessment criteria presented in Appendix D of this SA report include a number of distance-based criteria used to estimate likely effects of site options. Research by the Institute of Highways and Transportation was used to identify desirable, acceptable and preferred maximum walking distances to various services and facilities. Distances in the appraisal were

measured as a straight line distance from the edge of the site option to the features in question – examination of actual distances via the rights of way network was not possible since digital data were not available to indicate the access points of services and facilities or the likely entry and exit points from the site options. In addition, straight line distances do not allow for the consideration of physical barriers that may restrict access to features. However, where possible the availability of crossings and bridges is taken into consideration to ensure that the features are accessible. Therefore, actual walking distances could be greater. To recognise the potential for walking distances to be greater, when applying the Institute of Highways and Transportation distances for the appraisal of site options to each of the relevant distances, a 10% buffer was applied to account for the potential difference between the straight line distance and the actual distance involved in a journey.

- Similarly, straight line distances were used to define areas within which varying levels of harm to environmental receptors were assumed to exist. In reality, the risk of harmful effects will sometimes depend on non-linear pathways (such as watercourses for water pollution effects) and will depend on the particular vulnerabilities of specific receptors. Nevertheless, the assumptions used were judged proportionate to the level of detail of a Local Plan and were considered to provide a consistent basis for assessing all of the site options.
- A distance-based approach has been used for appraising site options under SA Objective 3: Maintain and improve a quality built environment, and preserve heritage assets due to the lack of heritage assessment available.
- Flood Zone data that includes an allowance for climate change was recently made available. This data set takes account of the potential impact of climate change on flood risk. However, this data was not available at the time the appraisal of the site options was undertaken. Therefore, the site options have been appraised based on the flood zone data that doesn't include allowance for climate change.

Chapter 3
Sustainability Context

3.1 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires information on the following (numbering relates to the specific numbered list in Schedule 2):

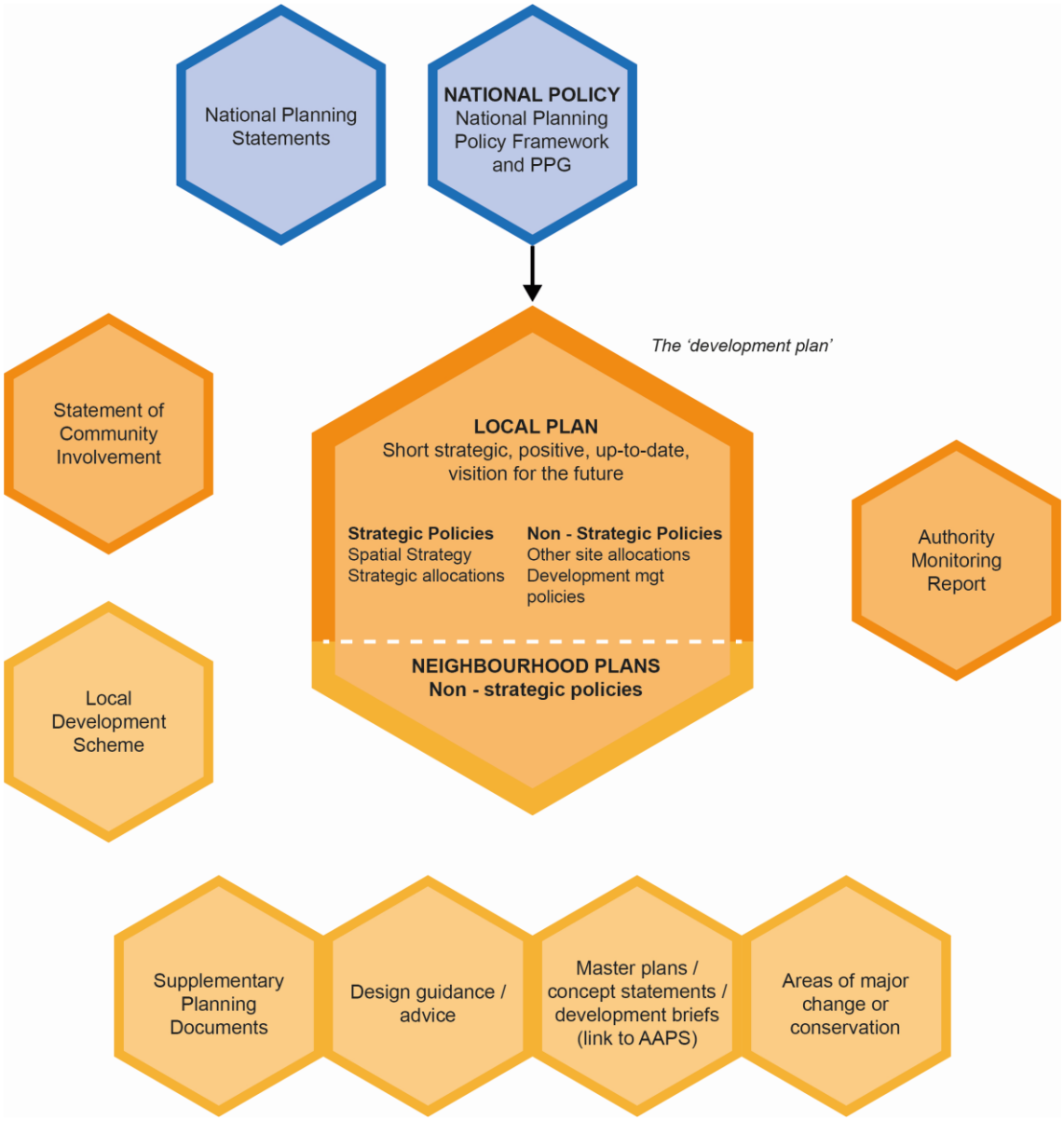
- 1. “an outline of the contents and main objectives of the Plan and its relationship with other relevant plans or programmes” and
- 5. “the environmental protection objectives established at International, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and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

3.2 An outline of the current Local Plan consultation document was provided in Chapter 1. The other reporting requirements are met in this chapter.

Relationship with other Relevant Plans or Programmes

3.3 The North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is not prepared in isolation and must be in conformity with a range of international and national plans and programmes as shown below in Figure 3.1. The Local Plan will eventually replace the adopted North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013-2032. The Local Plan also comprises any ‘made’ Neighbourhood Plans within North East Lincolnshire 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 3.1.

Figure 3.1: Relationship between North East Lincolnshire Local Plan and other relevant plans and programmes



Policy context

3.4 The policy context in which the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is being prepared informs consideration of what constitute reasonable alternative policy options for that document as well as the framework of sustainability objectives against which it will be appraised. It should be noted that the policy context is inherently uncertain as the current framework outlined here is likely to change in response to a number of key factors:

- **Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023** – The Act sets out various planning reforms including the replacement of the SA/SEA regime with 'Environmental Outcomes Reports'; replacement of the CIL process and much of the section 106 payments system with a new national infrastructure levy; a shared framework of National Development Management Policies, removing much of this detail from Local Plans; replacement of supplementary planning documents (SPD) with Supplementary Plans that carry more weight and but would be subject to examination; repeal of the Duty to Cooperate; a duty on public bodies and infrastructure providers to assist the local plan-making process; a speeded up plan-making process (plans to be prepared and adopted within 30 months); a strengthened role for the 'national model design code'; replacement of Neighbourhood Plans with Neighbourhood Priorities Statements; removal of the NPPF requirement to demonstrate a rolling five-year supply of housing land, provided that the local plan is up to date; removal of the 'soundness test' for local plans to be 'justified'.
- **Planning and Infrastructure Act** – The Bill was published in March 2025 and subsequently received Royal Assent in December 2025 and aims to accelerate the delivery of high-quality infrastructure and housing.

3.5 It is also possible that UK and sub-national climate change policy may change as public awareness and prioritisation of the threat of climate change grows, as illustrated by the increasing number of local authorities, including North East Lincolnshire Council, that have declared a climate emergency.

International

3.6 Former EU Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the 'SEA Directive') and Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive') were transposed into the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations **[See reference 4]** and Habitats Regulations **[See reference 5]**. Following the UK's departure from the EU, these Regulations still apply and require environmental assessment processes to be undertaken in relation to the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. These processes should be undertaken iteratively and integrated into the production of the plan in order to ensure that any potential negative environmental effects (including on European-level nature conservation designations) are identified and can be mitigated.

3.7 There were also a wide range of other EU Directives relating to issues such as water quality, waste and air quality, most of which are transposed into UK law through Acts, Regulations and national-level policy. The UK has now fully left the EU and therefore EU Directives no longer apply to the UK. The relevant Regulations are summarised in Appendix B.

National

3.8 There is an extensive range of national policies, plans and programmes that are of relevance to the Local Plan 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 NPPF and PPG of relevance to the Local Plan and the 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 the SA are provided in Appendix B.

The National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance

3.9 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) **[See reference 6]** is the overarching planning framework which provides national planning policy and principles for the planning system in England. The NPPF 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 and has been revised several times since, with the most recent version being published very recently in August 2026. However, the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan is being prepared under the previous version of the NPPF, which was published in December 2024, in line with the transitional arrangements that were set out at that time. References to the NPPF in this report should therefore be taken as referring to the December 2024 NPPF. That version introduced a new standard method for assessing housing needs, which is much more ambitious than its predecessor.

3.10 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."

3.11 The North East Lincolnshire Plan 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."

3.12 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 7]**.

3.13 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) homes (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.

3.14 PPG **[See reference 8]** 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.

3.15 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

3.16 Climate change adaption 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 net zero by 2050 and take full account of all climate impacts including overheating, water scarcity, storm and flood risks 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 the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating and drought from rising temperatures.

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

3.18 In relation to health and well-being, healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social interaction and 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 9]** can be used by local authorities to assist in the creation of places that are better for people and nature.

3.19 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 physical activity 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 venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses 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 10]**. The need for policies to be reflective of this longer time period is to take account of the likely timescale for delivery.

3.20 The delivery of new housing is considered to support local communities by meeting housing needs and addressing shortages. The new North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 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 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 well-being of local communities.

3.21 The 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 the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological

networks and the recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing 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.

3.22 The North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 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.

3.23 In relation to landscape, the NPPF sets the planning principles of recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside as well as protecting and enhancing valued landscapes. Reference is included with regards to this purpose at National Parks, The Broads and National Landscapes. In December 2023, a new duty came into force via the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act that requires authorities to further the purposes of National Landscapes by conserving and enhancing their natural beauty.

3.24 The Local Plan should be supportive of an approach to development which would protect the landscape character of North East Lincolnshire and its surrounds. Where appropriate it should also seek to protect the identity of the built-up areas of North East Lincolnshire. The SA should identify those alternatives which contribute positively to landscape and townscape character.

3.25 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.

3.26 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 11**]**, setting minimum energy efficiency standards which are increasing the performance values of properties. From 15 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** 12**]** 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.

3.27 The NPPF prevents new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. 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.

3.28 The new North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 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 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.

3.29 The NPPF states that the 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.

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

most versatile agricultural land, as well as those which would promote the use of brownfield land.

3.31 The new Local Plan 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

3.32 The NPPF 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, innovation and improved productivity. 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.

3.33 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".

3.34 The new Local Plan should seek to maximise the potential benefits of nearby strategic growth, while at the same time ensuring the vitality and viability of smaller localised economies. Ensuring that services and facilities within the district's town and local centres are maintained and enhanced is also important and will also provide support for local communities. The SA process can support the development of the new Local Plan 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 have been considered.

3.35 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.

3.36 Growth will inevitably increase traffic on the roads which also has implications for air quality, albeit noting the increased uptake of electric vehicles may minimise these impacts, and the new Local Plan 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, 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

3.37 Numerous other policies, plans and programmes at a national level are of relevance to preparation of the Local Plan 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 and SA.

Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation, Energy Efficiency and Waste Minimisation

3.38 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025)
- Seventh Carbon Budget (2025)
- Carbon Budget and Growth Delivery Plan (2025)
- Clean Energy Industries Sector Plan (2025)

- The Hydrogen Update to the Market (2025)
- The Onshore Wind Strategy (2025)
- The Environmental Improvement Plan (2025)
- The Clean Power 2030 Action Plan (2024)
- The Policy Statement on Onshore Wind (2024)
- State of the UK Climate (2024)
- The National Adaptation Programme and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting (2023)
- Biomass Strategy (2023)
- Carbon Budget Delivery Plan (2023)
- Powering up Britain (2023)
- The Net Zero Growth Plan (2023)
- UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (2022)
- British Energy Security Strategy (2022)
- The Environment Act (2021)
- The Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy (2021)
- The Heat and Buildings Strategy (2021)
- The UK Hydrogen Strategy (2021)
- Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations (2021)
- The Waste Management Plan for England (2021)
- 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)
- National Infrastructure Strategy: Fairer, faster greener (2020)
- The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (2020)
- The Flood and Water Management Act (2010) and The Flood and Water Regulations (2019)

- Net Zero – The UK's Contribution to Stopping Global Warming (Climate Change Committee, 2019)
- Our Waste, Our Resources: A strategy for England (2018)
- The Clean Growth Strategy (2017)
- National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) (2014)
- The Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Sources Regulations (2011)
- Climate Change Act (2008) and Climate Change Act 2009 (2050 Target Amendment) Order (2019)
- Planning and Energy Act (2008)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan 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 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, including avoiding development in areas at risk of flooding. The Local Plan should 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

3.39 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025)
- Fit for the Future: The 10-Year Health Plan for England (2025)
- Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2024)
- The Policy Statement on New Towns (2024)
- Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023)

- Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan (2023)
- Homes England Strategic Plan 2023-2028 (2023)
- Green Infrastructure Framework (2023)
- National Design Guide (2021)
- The State of the Environment: Health, People and the Environment (2021)
- Using the planning system to promote healthy weight environments (2020) Addendum (2021)
- Marmot Review 10 Years On (2020)
- Public Health England, PHE Strategy 2020-25 (2019)
- 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 and SA

The Local Plan 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)

3.40 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Natural England's Strategy: Recovering Nature for Growth, Health and Security (2025)
- The Environmental Improvement Plan (2025)
- The Climate and Nature Bill (2024)
- The Waste Prevention Programme for England: Maximising Resources, Minimising Waste (2023)
- 25 Year Environment Plan: Progress Reports (2023)
- Working with Nature (2022)
- Establishing the Best Available Techniques for the UK (UK BAT) (2022)
- The Environment Act (2021)
- 25 Year Environment Plan: Progress Reports (2020)
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations (2019)
- Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations (2015)
- Defra Right of Way Circular (01/09) (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)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended)
- National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan 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 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 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

3.41 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Historic England Strategy 2026-2031 (2026)
- Heritage Statement (2017)
- Historic England, The Setting of Heritage Assets (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 and SA

The Local Plan 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

3.42 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- The National Framework for Water Resources 2025
- Plan for Water: Our Integrated Plan for Delivering Clean and Plentiful Water (2023)
- Air quality strategy for England (2023)
- Environment Act (2021)
- National Chalk Streams Strategy Chalk Stream Strategy (2021)
- Managing Water Abstraction (2021)
- The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (2020)
- Clean Air Strategy (2019)
- The Road to Zero (2018)
- Our Waste, Our Resources: A strategy for England (2018)
- Environmental Noise Regulations (2018)
- Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2018
- Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations (2017)
- The Drought response: Our Framework for England (2017)
- Managing Water Abstraction (2016)
- Environmental Permitting Regulations (2016)
- Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations 2015
- Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations (2015)
- National Policy Statement for Waste Water (2012)
- Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010)
- Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
- Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations (2009)
- Flood Risk Regulations (2009)
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (2003)

- Environmental Protection Act (1990)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan 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. The availability of water resources is a significant issue in North East Lincolnshire, and the availability of water resources will continue to be a challenge because of climate change, alongside other pressures such as protecting habitats and sites of importance for biodiversity, supporting growth, local industry and other commercial or visitor-based opportunities.

Economic Growth

3.43 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025)
- Infrastructure: A 10 Year Strategy (2025)
- The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy (2025)
- The Plan for Change (2024)
- The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023)
- The Growth Plan (2022)
- Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024 (2020)
- Agriculture Act (2020)
- LEP Network response to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper Consultation (2017)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan 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

3.44 The relevant national PPPs under this topic are:

- Better Connected: a strategy for integrated transport (2026)
- UK Infrastructure: A 10 Year Strategy (2025)
- National Highways Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2023)
- Future of Transport: supporting rural transport innovation (2023)
- Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy Report to Parliament (2022)
- Future of Freight Plan (2022)
- Department for Transport (DfT) Circular (01/2022)
- Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain (2021)
- The Environment Act (2021)
- Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (2020)
- Jet Zero Strategy Delivering Net Zero Aviation by 2050 (2020)
- The Road to Zero (2018)
- Highways England Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan (2017)
- Door to Door: A strategy for improving sustainable transport integration (2013)
- Defra Rights of Way Circular (1/09)

Implications for the Local Plan and SA

The Local Plan 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 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

3.45 Below the national level there are further plans and programmes which are of relevance for the Local Plan 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 B.

Surrounding Development Plans

3.46 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 plans for the local authority areas which surround North East Lincolnshire is also provided in Appendix B:

- North Lincolnshire
- Central Lincolnshire
- East Lindsey
- Hull
- East Riding

Neighbourhood Plans and Community/Parish Plans

3.47 There are currently no designated Neighbourhood Forums or Neighbourhood Plans in preparation or made in North East Lincolnshire. Neighbourhood Plans form part of the Development Plan for North East Lincolnshire. There are two Community Plans that have been produced: Ashby-cum-Fenby and Waltham. Whilst these do not form part of the Development Plan, they set out the desires and aspirations for their local communities.

Baseline information

3.48 Baseline information provides the context for assessing the sustainability of proposals in the Local Plan and it provides the basis for identifying trends, predicting the likely effects of the plan and monitoring its outcomes. Baseline data must be relevant to environmental, social and economic issues, be sensitive to change and should ideally relate to records that are sufficient to identify trends.

3.49 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires that the Environmental Report includes descriptions of:

- "(2) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.
- (3) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected."

3.50 Schedule 2(6) of the SEA Regulations requires the likely significant effects of the plan on the environment to be assessed in relation to: biodiversity; population; human health; fauna; flora; soil; water; air; climatic factors; material assets; cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage; landscape; and the inter-relationship between these. As an integrated SA and SEA is being carried out, baseline information relating to other 'sustainability' topics has also been included, for example, information about housing, social inclusiveness, transport, energy, waste and economic growth.

3.51 Information on existing environmental, social and economic conditions in the plan area provides the baseline against which the plan's effects can be assessed in the SA and monitored during the plan's implementation. Baseline information can also be combined with an understanding of drivers of change that are likely to persist regardless of the Local Plan to understand the likely future sustainability conditions in the absence of the local plan.

3.52 The baseline information for North East Lincolnshire is presented in Appendix C.

3.53 SEA guidance recognises that data gaps will exist but suggests that where baseline information is unavailable or unsatisfactory, authorities should consider how it will affect their assessments and determine how to improve it for use in

the assessment of future plans. Where there are data gaps in the baseline, or reports not yet published, these are highlighted in the text in Appendix C.

Key sustainability issues

3.54 Key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire were originally identified in the SA Scoping Report (January 2023). These issues were reviewed and edited slightly in the December 2023 SA report in light of the Scoping consultation responses received (see Appendix A) and have been reviewed and checked for any updates needed during the preparation of the subsequent SA reports. The current set of key issues is presented below.

3.55 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 was not to be implemented. This analysis is also presented below in relation to each of the key sustainability issues.

Climate change adaptation and mitigation

Key Sustainability Issue

3.56 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 offers another opportunity to update the Borough's approach to managing the effects of the changing climate and associated weather events, particularly in the design of new buildings and green infrastructure.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.57 The Local Plan offers the opportunity to update North East Lincolnshire's approach to managing the effects of the changing climate and associated weather events, particularly in the design of new buildings and green infrastructure.

3.58 The Local Plan offers an opportunity to contribute further to mitigate the potential effects of any flooding and help the borough's communities adapt to the increased likelihood of significant weather events in the future.

3.59 The Local Plan offers an opportunity to improve public and active transport connections and capacity, and provide development of housing, employment, services and facilities in locations that will reduce the need to travel by car.

3.60 The Local Plan offers an opportunity to prioritise nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation. Nature-based solutions provide multiple benefits, including helping to prevent further nature loss and provide resilience against climate impacts such as sea-level rise, flooding, and overheating.

Population, Health and Wellbeing

Key Sustainability Issue

3.61 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, the required housing is less likely to be delivered.

3.62 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, 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 offers a new opportunity to manage these pressures.

3.63 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 offers an opportunity to reduce the gap between the most and least deprived through appropriately planned growth.

3.64 Levels of obesity in the Borough remains high, in particular child obesity. The Local Plan 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 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.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.65 Without the Local Plan, the required housing, facilities and infrastructure is less likely to be delivered and/or be delivered in less sustainable locations.

3.66 The Local Plan offers an opportunity to reduce the gap between the most and least deprived by providing for, or encouraging access to, healthcare facilities, well designed and located development and opportunities to exercise, all of which will support health and wellbeing.

Economy

Key Sustainability Issue

3.67 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 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 will also support economic growth and the Plan can directly support certain sectors through the inclusion of relevant policies.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.68 The Local Plan can help support a strong economy, growth, and new businesses, by identifying the employment sites and infrastructure required.

Transport

Key Sustainability Issue

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

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.70 The Local Plan could help support an increasing shift towards the use of sustainable modes of travel by ensuring development and regeneration schemes are supported by sustainable infrastructure and that amenities,

services and jobs are located within a reasonable walking and cycling distance. In the absence of the Plan, it is more likely that there would be a continued focus on car use, although it is likely that changes in technology would mean more electric cars are in use even without the Plan.

Air Quality

Key Sustainability Issue

3.71 Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts. There are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) within North East Lincolnshire. However, monitoring of air quality is still undertaken in relation to nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter and sulphur dioxide. The Grimsby AQMA was revoked in 2024 due to no exceedances of the NO2 annual mean objective being identified. Although air quality may be within legal limits, there is still concern present in relation to air quality, particularly as a result of road congestion.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.72 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to set out measures to mitigate air quality exceedances without inhibiting the need for North East Lincolnshire to grow. Air quality may be addressed to some extent even in the absence of the new Plan through technological developments and an increase in the use of electric vehicles.

Land and Water

Key Sustainability Issue

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

3.74 High flood risk across much of the urban area, which is expected to increase further as a result of climate change. The Local Plan offers an opportunity to contribute further to mitigate the potential effects of any flooding and help communities adapt to the increased likelihood of significant weather events in the future.

3.75 Extensive areas of high-quality agricultural land which require protection from development. The Local Plan provides an opportunity to ensure that these natural assets are not lost or compromised by future growth in the Borough by prioritising the development of brownfield land over greenfield land and poorer agricultural land over the best and most versatile.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.76 The Local Plan provides the opportunity to direct developments away from areas of highest flood risk, reducing increased pressure on significant water resources and to ensure there is no increase in flood risk. The new Local Plan also offers an opportunity to ensure appropriate mitigation, including SUDs, is required as part of proposed development to mitigate any potential impacts on water resources.

3.77 The Local Plan has the potential to secure long term sustainable development, which will be essential in ensuring that all new development implements water efficiency standards.

3.78 Water resources would be under more pressure without a review of the Local Plan. The Local Plan has the potential to ensure there is sufficient sewage and drainage infrastructure to meet the development demands, and to ensure measures are in place to prevent potentially polluting uses in SPZs.

3.79 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to ensure that land is not compromised by future growth by directing development away from contaminated land and that appropriate measures are required to ensure risks of contaminants are minimised. The new Local Plan provides the opportunity to prioritise the development of brownfield land over greenfield land and poorer agricultural land over the best and most versatile.

Waste

Key Sustainability Issue

3.80 Low recycling rates and a high volume of waste is being incinerated.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.81 The Local Plan provides the opportunity to drive up the waste hierarchy and facilitate a more circular economy including sustainable and well-designed development, requiring sustainable demolition and construction practises and the provision of space and infrastructure to support recycling. The Local Plan 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 will also ensure that there is sufficient land is available in appropriate locations for any new waste management facilities.

Biodiversity

Key Sustainability Issue

3.82 North East Lincolnshire contains a number of designated and non-designated biodiversity assets. A large proportion of SSSIs and LWSs 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 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.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.83 The Local Plan can make a positive contribution to directly benefit biodiversity outcomes. The Local Plan provides an opportunity to manage development pressures on designated sites, and to evaluate the condition of the habitats and employ measures to ensure that future growth does not adversely affect their current condition but where possible contributes to their enhancement, extension and connection.

3.84 The Local Plan offers the potential to ensure that development integrates green and blue infrastructure and other forms of nature based solutions.

Historic Environment

Key Sustainability Issue

3.85 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 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.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.86 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to conserve and enhance the historic environment as well as improve the accessibility and interpretation of it. In the absence of the Plan the risks facing local heritage assets are likely to continue and be less effectively addressed although these risks should still be addressed to some extent through the development management process.

Landscape

Key Sustainability Issue

3.87 Areas of high landscape sensitivity, particularly close to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB, which could be adversely affected by inappropriate development. The Local Plan 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.

Likely Evolution of the Issue without the Local Plan

3.88 The Local Plan offers an opportunity to ensure that sensitive landscapes are protected and enhanced as appropriate and that development is designed to take account of the variation in character and sensitivity across the borough, through the inclusion of up to date policies which reflect the most recent evidence.

The SA Framework

3.89 As described in Chapter 2, the relevant objectives established via the review of plans, policies, and programmes and the key sustainability issues identified by the baseline review informed the development of a framework of sustainability objectives, the SA framework, against which the plan is being assessed. The SA framework for the Local Plan is presented below.

3.90 The context for the appraisal of options for the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan against each of the SA objectives is set by the appraisal questions listed below each headline SA objective below. These questions provide a guide for the appraisal of options, identifying issues relating to the SA objective that should be considered where relevant. Given the large number of issues relating to each SA objective, it is not possible to list all those that are related and relevant and therefore the appraisal questions should not be considered to be prescriptive or exhaustive. In effect the questions act as a starting point for the identification of effects and the appraisal work considers wider issues as appropriate. Also shown below is how all of the 'SEA topics' (as listed in Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations) have been covered by the SA objectives in the SA framework. This reflects the fact that an integrated approach is being taken to the SA and SEA of the new Local Plan.

3.91 As a result of the Scoping consultation, a small number of changes were made to some of the SA objectives in the SA framework since it was presented in the Scoping Report. These are detailed in Appendix A and the changes were first made in the December 2023 SA report. No further changes to the SA framework have been made in the SA reports prepared since.

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

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce current greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources in line with hitting the target of carbon net zero by 2050?
- Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?

- Will it increase energy from low or zero carbon sources?
- Will it reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
- Will it reduce emissions from transportation?
- Will it enhance and/or extend green and blue infrastructure networks to support climate adaptation? Will it encourage nature-based solutions?

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?
- Will it support the remediation of contaminated land?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Soil
- Material assets
- Landscape

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

Appraisal Questions

- Will it protect listed buildings and their settings?
- Will it preserve or enhance the setting of all heritage assets, both designated and non-designated and their settings?
- 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 and habitats?
- Will it maintain and enhance woodland/hedgerow cover and management?
- Will it preserve/enhance open watercourses and aquatic habitats?
- Will it promote access to wildlife on appropriate sites?
- Will it encourage the development of new biodiversity assets and extend linkages to existing habitats within/alongside development?
- Will it increase the provision of and access to green and blue 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?
- Will it increase the resilience of North East Lincolnshire's water resources to consider the implications of climate change on water supply?
- Will it encourage enhancements to green and blue infrastructure to support water supply?

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?
- Will it reduce the likelihood of pollution to watercourses from identified sources, such as housing development in construction phases, industry, transport runoff and agriculture?
- Will it protect surface and groundwater quality?
- Will it contribute to improvements in the Water Framework Directive status of a surface water body?

Relevant SEA Topics

- Water

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

Appraisal Questions

- Will it reduce risk from flooding on people, property and the natural environment?
- Will it manage the effects of climate change from flooding?
- Will it ensure no new inappropriate developments in the relevant Flood Zones?
- Will it increase the number of new developments that incorporate sustainable drainage techniques including SuDs?
- Will it promote opportunities to support flood resilient places to reduce the risk of flood damage to properties and speed up the recovery after flooding?
- Will it encourage natural flood management schemes?

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?
- Will it address access to green and blue spaces?

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?
- Will it improve connections to green and blue infrastructure?
- Will it improve public safety and confidence in cycling as a mode of transport?

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

Chapter 4
Sustainability Appraisal findings for the Strategic and Growth Options

4.1 This chapter presents the SA findings for the strategic policy options and the growth options that have been considered for the Local Plan.

4.2 The Council initially considered options related to the housing and employment growth options and the spatial strategy options in the Scoping and Issues Paper (September 2022). The other policy options identified at that time were high level and not suitable for appraisal as stand-alone options. The growth and spatial strategy options were subject to SA by LUC and the findings were presented in the SA Report for the Draft Local Plan (2023).

4.3 Prior to the second Regulation 18 consultation in late 2025, the options were reviewed by the Council and updated as appropriate, taking into account the most recent evidence and the latest national policy as set out in the December 2024 NPPF update. No further updates have been made to the options in this iteration of the SA report.

Housing requirement

4.4 Earlier in the plan-making process the Council identified four options for the amount of housing to be provided through the Local Plan, all of which were subject to SA, with the findings presented in the December 2023 SA Report:

- Option A Low – standard method (minimum housing need c203/annum
- Option B Medium – trend based on past delivery over plan period to date c313/annum
- Option C Trend + Set requirement, aligned to baseline jobs (414/ annum)
- Option D High – Aligned to Policy-On scenario 507

4.5 However, the new standard method as introduced in the December 2024 NPPF results in a housing requirement for North East Lincolnshire of 621 dwellings per annum (dpa), amounting to 11,178 dwellings over the plan period. Given that the NPPF sets out a very clear indication that this must be the starting point for plan-making, the Council does not consider that there are now reasonable alternatives requiring SA. The Council has also had regard to the findings of the HEDNA that indicates the projected job growth is in line with this

figure. The HEDNA also notes that increasing this is unlikely to make any additional meaningful contribution to likely affordable housing provision. The SA findings for the above options are therefore no longer included in the SA Report.

Employment Land requirement

4.6 Earlier in the plan-making process the Council identified two options for the amount of employment land to be provided through the Local Plan, both of which were subject to SA, with the findings first presented in the December 2023 SA report:

- Option A - Set the employment requirement aligned to the Experian Baseline 2022 projection, (net workforce jobs growth 2,600 over the plan period 2022-2042).
- Option B – Set the employment requirement aligned to the 'Policy-On' position (net workforce jobs growth of 4,500 over the plan period 2022-2042).

4.7 Prior to the second Regulation 18 consultation in late 2025, the options were updated to reflect the latest evidence, which resulted in the Option A figure being amended to jobs growth of 4,600 over the plan period (effectively the same figure as was previously appraised as Option B). The new Option B figure was slightly higher than either of the options considered previously, at jobs growth of 5,375 over the plan period. The latest evidence, as explained in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, now shows the Option B figure to be 6,525 as a result of adjustments made through consideration of the known projects likely to make meaningful contributions to job growth.

4.8 The SA findings for the original Options A and B are presented below, although the original Option A is no longer in itself a reasonable alternative. Based on the updated options, the Option B findings presented below should be taken to represent the likely effects of the current Option A. The current Option B is not considered to be materially different enough from the current Option A that the likely effects identified in the SA would differ. Where the threshold for likely significant effects is considered to be reached under the current Option A (previously Option B), the same significant effects would apply to the current Option B as the effects cannot be recorded as 'more significant'. However, logic would dictate that a higher growth figure would exacerbate the significant effects identified, both positive and negative.

Table 4.1: Summary of SA findings for the Employment Land Requirement options as presented in the December 2023 SA Report

SA Objective	Option A	Option B
SA1: Climate Change	0?	-?
SA2: Efficient use of land	0?	-?
SA3: Cultural Heritage	-?	-?
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	-?	--?
SA5: Air	-?	-?
SA6: Resources	-	--
SA7: Waste	-	-
SA8: Water	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0?	-?
SA10: Social Inclusion	+	++
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	-?	-?
SA16: Housing	0	0
SA17: Landscape	-?	-?
SA18: Economic Growth	++	++
SA19: Education	+	+

4.9 A higher employment growth figure can contribute more to climate change through generating higher levels of greenhouse gas emissions. There is

potential for the construction and operation of employment uses to increase greenhouse gas emissions. Employment uses that generate a significant number of trips by both cars and HGVs could result in a rise in greenhouse gas emissions having a negative impact on climate change. However, there could be opportunities for employment related uses to lower their carbon footprint and emissions level by working towards net zero and striving for energy efficiency. Overall a minor negative effect is expected for Option B against **SA1: Climate change** as the option involves increasing employment growth figure by aligning it with a 'Policy-On' Position. Option A will result in a negligible effect in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** as the employment figure would align with the Experian Baseline 2002 projection. However, all effects are uncertain depending on the housing figure - balancing the employment land provision with housing provision will help to reduce out-commuting and the associated emissions from longer journeys which are likely to be undertaken by car.

4.10 Options A and B have the potential to make use of vacant and brownfield land depending on the location of development. However, a higher employment growth target could result in greater pressure on greenfield sites. There is a degree of uncertainty to each option as the exact sites are currently unknown. Therefore, a minor negative effect is identified for Option B and a negligible effect is identified for Option A against **SA2: Efficient use of land**.

4.11 A higher employment growth target under Option B in particular and to some extent Option A could result in adverse effects on cultural heritage assets and the historic character of the area. Depending on the scale of development, effects could be relatively localised and there is a degree of uncertainty until the employment site allocations are known. A minor negative effect is identified in relation to Options A and B against **SA3: Cultural Heritage**. There is a potential for negative effects on the Humber estuary SPA/SAC Ramsar if employment development is proposed along the North East Lincolnshire coast. Additionally, Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves are spread across North East Lincolnshire and could be negatively impacted by the development of employment generating uses. Therefore, a minor negative effect with uncertainty is identified for Option A while Option B could have a significant negative effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

4.12 There is potential for the construction and operation of employment uses (depending on the type of use) to impact negatively on air quality. Uses that generate a significant number of trips by both cars and HGVs, will result in localised air quality impacts. Effects are to some extent uncertain as they will depend on the particular location of employment sites and their proximity to existing areas of poor air quality. Therefore, minor negative effects are identified

for Options A and B against **SA5: Air**. The construction and operation of new employment generating uses will increase the demand for water, raw materials and energy in North East Lincolnshire. Option B proposes to increase employment growth and therefore, will require the use of a higher level of raw materials, water and energy resulting in significant negative effect against **SA6: Resources**. Minor negative effects are expected for Option A in relation to **SA6: Resources**. Commercial and industrial uses can generate significant levels of waste, depending on the nature of operations. Option B proposes to increase employment growth and therefore will likely result in a higher level of waste produced. However, a higher level of employment growth may support investment in recycling capacity. Overall a minor negative effect is likely for Options A and B against **SA7: Waste**.

4.13 Option A would result in a lower level of development compared to Option B and therefore a lower level of greenfield land is likely to be lost. It also may be easier to locate development away from the areas of highest flood risk. However, with the site allocations currently unknown, it is not possible to predict the effects of Options A and B on this SA objective with certainty. Therefore, an uncertain minor negative effect is identified for Option B against **SA9: Flooding** as there would be likely to be some greenfield land loss with potential impacts on flood risk. A negligible effect with uncertainty is identified for Option A against **SA9: Flooding**.

4.14 Providing employment growth through both Options A and B will help lower levels of deprivation, in particular income and employment and education, through providing more employment opportunities. Option B, which is the high employment growth option, will offer the largest variety of job opportunities and will also encourage people to work and live within North East Lincolnshire. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected for Option A and significant positive effect for Option B in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion**.

4.15 Employment growth will increase the number of road users, potentially causing congestion and capacity issues on certain junctions. There could also be the potential for increases in people commuting into North East Lincolnshire, generating a greater number of vehicle movements. Depending on the location of employment, the workforce may be able to take advantage of sustainable transport options reducing the pressure on roads within North East Lincolnshire. Effects are also uncertain depending on how the employment figures would be balanced with housing provision which would affect levels of in and out commuting. Given that Options A and B propose to maintain or increase the level of employment growth, they are likely to have an impact on the road

network and minor negative effects are identified against **SA15: Sustainable Travel**.

4.16 Maintaining and increasing the employment land requirement through Options A and B could result in adverse effects on local landscape character and the quality of landscape. Depending on the scale of development and the specific location of employment sites, effects could be relatively localised or much further reaching, depending on the location and characteristics of employment developments. Therefore, uncertain minor negative effects are identified in relation to Options A and B against **SA17: Landscape**.

4.17 Options A and B support the allocation of employment land providing opportunities for new jobs and supporting economic growth within North East Lincolnshire. Option B would provide the largest variety of employment opportunities. Therefore, Option A and B are likely to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth**. Providing employment land through Options A and B could support enhancements to educational and training opportunities within North East Lincolnshire. Options A and B are likely to have minor positive effects against **SA19: Education** as they would involve maintaining or increasing employment land and the associated opportunities.

4.18 Options A and B are expected to have negligible effects against the remaining SA objectives.

Spatial Distribution – Housing

4.19 Earlier in the plan-making process the Council identified four options for the spatial distribution of housing, all of which were originally subject to SA in the December 2023 SA Report:

- Option A Urban Focus Inc SUE
- Option B Greater arc Growth, excluding SUE
- Option C Arc Constraint inc SUE
- Option D Wider Distribution excluding SUE growth

4.20 The likely effects of these options are presented in Table 4.2 and justification for the identified effects is summarised below the table.

Table 4.2: Summary of SA findings for the Spatial Distribution of Housing Options

SA Objective	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
SA1: Climate Change	+	-	+	--
SA2: Efficient use of land	+/-	-	-	-
SA3: Cultural Heritage	--?	-?	-?	-?
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	--/+?	--?	+/-?	--?
SA5: Air	+/-	-	+/-	-
SA6: Resources	0	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	--?	-?	-?	0?
SA10: Social inclusion	++	+	+	+
SA11: health and wellbeing	++/-	+/-	+	+/-
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	++/-	+	+	+
SA14: Services and Facilities	++	-	-	--
SA15: Sustainable travel	++/-	-	+/-	-
SA16: Housing	++	+	++	+
SA17: Landscape	+/-?	--?	+/-?	--?
SA18: Economic Growth	++	-	+	-
SA19: Education	++	-	+	-

4.21 A minor positive effect against **SA1: Climate Change** is expected for Option A as it promotes development within the main urban centres where there should be good access to sustainable transport links, as well as jobs, services and facilities within closer proximity and requiring lower levels of car use. Development at SUEs should also offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy infrastructure and potentially new sustainable transport links. The scale of development delivered through strategic urban extensions can be expected to increase the viability of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures as part of the scheme. Additionally, the strategic urban extensions that would comprise part of Option C are located in close proximity to the main urban centres with easier access to sustainable modes of transport. A minor positive effect is therefore expected for Option C in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**. Options B and D would result in more development in rural locations which could increase reliance on the private car resulting in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, negative effects are expected for Options B and D in relation to **SA1: Climate change**. For Option B this is likely to be minor, whereas Option D could have significant negative effect as excluding SUEs from the strategy would also mean developments would be smaller scale and less likely to incorporate renewable energy infrastructure or new sustainable transport links.

4.22 Option A offers the best opportunities for the take up of derelict and brownfield sites through directing development to the main urban centres; however it would also involve the development of SUEs which would result in the loss of large areas of greenfield land. Therefore, Option A is expected to have mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effects against **SA2: Efficient use of land**. Option C also involves the development of SUEs which will result in the take up of a large area of greenfield land for development and so is likely to have a minor negative effect against **SA2: Efficient use of land**. Options B and D involve wider distribution of development around arc settlements and other small settlements resulting in the loss of greenfield land, including high valued agricultural land. Therefore, minor negative effects are also expected for Options B and D against **SA2: Efficient use of land**.

4.23 Specific impacts, including the extent to which new development could enhance the historic environment, will be dependent on the design and layout of specific proposals. Therefore, the effects of all the spatial options on this objective are uncertain. Option A would direct development mainly to the main urban centres which could be more likely to impact upon the higher concentration of Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings that exist in those areas, particularly within Grimsby and Cleethorpes. However, Option A also involves development at SUEs which should be less likely to have adverse

effects on heritage; however the main focus of the option is development in the urban area. Overall, a significant negative effect is identified for Option A against **SA3: Cultural Heritage**. Options B and D would involve a more dispersed pattern of development, particularly across the rural area. While heritage assets are less concentrated in those areas, the more dispersed pattern of development means that a higher number of heritage features may be impacted. Option C mainly focuses on development at SUEs, meaning that a large number of existing heritage assets are less likely to be affected although the overall scale of development at SUEs could mean that it is difficult to avoid impacts on any heritage assets in those areas. Overall, minor negative effects are expected in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage**.

4.24 Development focused at the main urban centres through Option A has the potential to negatively affect the Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites that are present within Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham. Additionally, the Humber Estuary SPA, SAC and Ramsar site runs along the coast in close proximity of the main urban centres. However, development could incorporate mitigation and enhancements to these wildlife sites and local nature reserves. Options A and C propose the development of SUEs which would require a significant uptake of greenfield land with associated potential impacts on biodiversity. Large scale development is likely to result in adverse impacts on habitats and local biodiversity through habitat fragmentation and the loss of trees and hedgerows. However, given the scale of development proposed there will likely be opportunities for mitigation which could include the creation of new habitats or enhancement to existing ones. Therefore, uncertain mixed effects (significant negative and minor positive) are expected for Option A against SA4: Biodiversity and geodiversity. Mixed uncertain effects (minor positive and minor negative) are also expected for Option C against **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

4.25 Option B and D would involve significant greenfield development. Development in some of the villages has potential to increase habitat fragmentation through removal of hedgerows and tree belts that form existing field boundaries. Some Local Wildlife Sites are on the edge of or in close proximity to arc settlements and other small settlements. The edge-effects of residential development, particularly in villages, is likely to have adverse impacts on habitats. There is the potential for mitigation and enhancement of wildlife habitats as a result of development although this is likely to be more limited with smaller scale development. Therefore, uncertain significant negative effects are identified expected for Options B and D against **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

4.26 Option A concentrates new development in areas of North East Lincolnshire that are already more densely populated, with the potential to increase traffic emissions, with a detrimental impact on air quality. However, concentrating most development in the main urban centres has the potential to reduce reliance on private vehicles, by giving residents greater choice of sustainable modes of transport. Options A and C propose new housing within SUEs. These are near areas that are already more densely populated, with the potential to increase traffic emissions, with a detrimental impact on air quality. Even with enhancements of the highway network around these towns there would be increases in airborne pollutants arising from increased congestion. Conversely, concentrating most development on the edge of Grimsby and Humberston has the potential to reduce reliance on private vehicles, by giving residents greater choice of sustainable transport modes. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected for Option A and C against **SA5: Air**. Option B and D would divert new housing towards arc settlements and other small settlements, minimising its adverse impact on existing traffic congestion and associated air quality issues. However, the expansion of arc settlements and other small settlements may generate new concentrations of road traffic as a result of high levels of car use, leading to associated air quality issues. Minor negative effects are therefore expected for Options B and D against **SA5: Air**.

4.27 Option A would see development focused in the urban areas of North East Lincolnshire. Developing in the urban centres of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham could increase flood risk in these areas and new properties would be highly vulnerable to flooding. In particular, areas to the east of Humberston Road fall within Flood Zone 3 and would be highly vulnerable. To the west of Humberston Road, the land falls outside of any flood zones but is in close proximity to a large area of Flood Zone 3. When considering the potential impact of climate change, the area of Flood Zone 2 and 3 is expected to increase slightly for Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham. The impact of climate change could therefore result in the Flood Zone area extending further into the three towns. However, it is dependent on where sites are allocated as to the west of the main urban centres there is a lower risk of flooding. Therefore, an uncertain significant negative effect is identified against SA9: Flooding. Option B focuses on growth in the arc villages of Humberston, New Waltham, Waltham, Laceby and Healing. Larges areas to the south east of Humberston, north of Laceby and north of Healing fall within Flood Zone 3. Therefore, developing within these areas could increase flood risk. Development around Waltham and New Waltham has a much lower risk of flooding and does not fall within any Flood Zones. Therefore, an uncertain minor negative effect is identified for Option B against **SA9: Flooding**.

4.28 Option C proposes the development of Grimsby west and Humberston Road Strategic Urban extensions. Areas to the east of Humberston Road fall within Flood Zone 3 and would be highly vulnerable. To the west of Humberston Road, the land falls outside of any flood zones but is in close proximity to a large area of Flood Zone 3. Large areas to the west of Grimsby are less vulnerable to flood risk but are within close proximity to large areas of Flood Zone 3. An uncertain minor negative effect is identified against **SA9: Flooding**. Option D would see more development in the smaller settlements. The majority of the smaller settlements fall more inland and outside of the areas that are highly vulnerable to flood risk. Developments at these settlements is unlikely to increase flood risk. Therefore, an uncertain negligible effect is identified against **SA9: Flooding**.

4.29 Option A is expected to have a significant positive effect against SA10: Social inclusion as it proposes to direct growth to the main urban centres. Directing growth to strategic urban extensions, arc settlements and other small settlements will have a positive effect on reducing levels of deprivation and minor positive effects against **SA10: Social inclusion** are expected for Options B, C and D.

4.30 The distribution of growth proposed under Option A will continue to support the viability of existing services and facilities, including healthcare related facilities, by focusing new development in main urban centres. Additionally, the main urban centres provide the easiest access to services and facilities such as healthcare and open space which can have a positive impact on health and wellbeing and may offer good opportunities for walking and cycling day to day. However, this option will limit regeneration of arc settlements and other small settlements, potentially exacerbating health inequalities in rural areas. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are expected for Option A in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**. Strategic urban extensions offer the opportunity to incorporate open space and green infrastructure which supports healthy lifestyles with places for recreation, as well as incorporating new healthcare infrastructure. Strategic urban extensions feature in Options A and C. The strategic urban extensions are located in close proximity to the main urban centres for access to service and facilities such as healthcare. A minor positive effect is therefore expected for Option C against **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**. A wider distribution of rural residential development proposed through Options B and D will facilitate ease of access to the countryside. However, increasing the rural population, spread over a wider area, will reduce accessibility to existing healthcare facilities. This pattern of growth will result in need for more dispersed healthcare provision with potential implications for viability. Development within arc settlements and smaller

settlements does not make best use of the healthcare facilities and open space available within the main urban centres and opportunities for walking and cycling day to day may be more limited. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected for Option B and D against **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**.

4.31 Option A will deliver development within the main urban centres which will support regeneration, enhancement to community facilities and the vibrancy of town centres. However, Option A does not direct development to the more rural parts of North East Lincolnshire and so would not benefit rural communities ensuring they remain vibrant. Strategic urban extensions promoted through Options A and C offer the opportunity to create new communities and enhance existing or build new community facilities. Therefore, minor positive effect are expected for Option C. Mixed effect (significant positive and minor negative) effects against **SA13: Community** are expected for Option A. Options B and D involve development within the arc settlements and smaller settlements within the more rural parts of North East Lincolnshire. Development within these areas will benefit the rural communities and ensure they remain vibrant. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected against **SA13: Community** for Options B and D.

4.32 Option A directs most development to the main urban centres (Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham) which offer the best accessibility to existing services and facilities. The strategic urban extensions proposed are located in close proximity to the main urban centres for easy access but given the size of development proposed, it could result in pressure on existing services and facilities unless new provision is made as part of the proposals. The strategic urban extensions proposed through Options A and C could offer opportunities to enhance existing services or provide new services and facilities given that large scale development is proposed. Therefore, a significant positive effect against **SA14: Services and Facilities** is expected for Option A and a minor positive effect is expected for Option C. Option B directs development to the arc settlements. This could result in more pressure on existing services and facilities such as healthcare and schools, which are limited within some arc settlements. Therefore, a minor negative effect against **SA14: Services and Facilities** is identified for Option B. Option D which directs development to smaller settlements would see more development in locations that lack services and facilities. This would require residents to have to travel further. Therefore, a significant negative effect against **SA14: Services and Facilities** is likely.

4.33 Option A directs most development to urban centres of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham which offer the best accessibility to sustainable

transport options. The development of strategic urban extensions such as Grimsby West and Humberston West through Options A and C offer opportunities to provide public transport and active travel connections to existing routes. However, large strategic urban extensions may also create capacity issues and congestion at certain junctions but there would be opportunities to upgrade the road network through these developments. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) against **SA15: Sustainable Travel** are expected for Option A. For Option C, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected. Options B and D are more likely to increase the number of vehicles movements, negatively impacting the road network. The arc settlements and smaller settlements do have access to some public transport but it is not as easily accessible as within the main urban areas. Healing is the only arc settlement that has a railway station. Laceby, New Waltham and Waltham have good public transport links via bus along the A46 and B1203. The majority of smaller settlements do have bus stops, allowing use of public transport, although the extent and frequency of services is unknown. Habrough and Stallingborough are the only smaller settlement with a railway station. Therefore, minor negative effects against **SA15: Sustainable Travel** are expected for Options B and D.

4.34 Option A focuses development in Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham and so will broaden the type and tenure of houses in the urban areas of North East Lincolnshire. However, this option will mean that there would be little growth within other settlements and housing growth will be concentrated to the main urban centres. This option will see a constraint on the locations that have been favoured by the housing market. Option A would see development of the Grimsby West and Humberston Road strategic urban extensions which would see a variety of homes constructed. Option B would see development take place in arc villages which are more rural settlements, allowing the housing needs of these villages to be met. Option B will also deliver more housing in areas favoured by the housing market. However, Option B sees limited growth in the main urban centres which could have a detrimental impact on the viability of these towns.

4.35 Option C would see a constraint on locations that have been favoured by the housing market and concentrates development in two strategic locations. However, the promotion of large-scale urban expansions such as Grimsby West and Humberston Road Strategic urban extension will likely see an increase in affordable housing being delivered and a variety of types and sizes of housing. This option does mean limited growth in other areas of North East Lincolnshire. Option D seeks to see a wider distribution of development with more development in smaller settlements. This option maximises the range, type and

location of sites across North East Lincolnshire. However, this could mean there is less development within the main urban centres, having a detrimental impact on the viability of these towns. Additionally, concentrating more development in smaller settlements could mean that North East Lincolnshire struggles to meet its housing need if site allocations are proportionate to the size of the settlement. Overall, minor positive effects in relation to **SA16: Housing** are expected for Options B and D and significant positive effects for Options A and C.

4.36 Option A proposes to focus development on the urban centres of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham. This will protect the local landscape from development, safeguarding the landscape character. However, Options A and C will likely see large areas of greenfield land developed with the development of Grimsby West and Humberston Road Strategic Urban Extension. This could have a detrimental impact on the local landscape and would be large urban extensions. However, Option C will provide protection to the settlement gaps between arc settlements, reducing coalescence. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected against **SA17: Landscape** for Options A and C. Options B and D proposes a relaxation of the restraint on growth in the gaps between settlements. This could increase the risk of settlement coalescence by reducing the green gaps between settlements. Additionally, development around Laceby and other smaller settlements within the south of North East Lincolnshire could have a negative impact on the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB. Therefore, significant negative effects are expected against **SA17: Landscape**. The effects of all options on this SA objective are uncertain as they will depend on the location and design of specific development sites.

4.37 Option A proposes housing growth within the main urban centres which will provide the best and easiest access to employment opportunities for residents. This will reduce the need to travel and commuting times. Option A and C also proposes development through strategic urban extensions which are located in close proximity to the main urban centres and will provide good access to employment opportunities. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected for Option A and a minor positive effect for Option C against **SA18: Economic Growth**. Options B and D propose development towards the arc settlements and other small settlements. Encouraging housing growth in these areas will mean that the residents will have to commute longer distances to access employment opportunities which will likely require the use of a private car. Therefore, minor negative effects are expected against **SA18: Economic Growth** for Options B and D.

4.38 Option A proposes housing growth within the main urban centres. This will provide the best and easiest access to education facilities and training opportunities for residents. Additionally, this will reduce the need to travel. Options A and C also propose development through strategic urban extensions which are located in close proximity to the main urban centres and will provide good access to education and training opportunities. Given the scale of development proposed through strategic urban extensions, they will likely require additional education provision which could include new schools. Therefore, a significant positive effect effects against **SA19: Education** is expected for Option A and a minor positive effect for Option C. Options B and D propose development at arc settlements and other small settlements. Delivering housing growth in these areas will mean that residents will have to travel further to access education and training opportunities. There is also the potential for pressure on schools, in particular village primary schools with limited capacity. Therefore, minor negative effects against **SA19: Education** are expected for Options B and D.

4.39 Options A, B, C and D are expected to have negligible effects against the remaining SA objectives.

Chapter 5
Sustainability Appraisal findings for the site options

5.1 This chapter summarises the SA findings for the site options that have been considered to date for allocation in the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan. A total of 91 residential site options, 26 employment site options and 10 biodiversity net gain site options have been appraised.

5.2 The likely effects of each site option are presented in Table 5.1 for residential sites, Table 5.2 for employment sites and Table 5.3 for biodiversity net gain sites. Justification for the identified effects is summarised by each SA objective below.

Table 5.1: Summary of SA Findings for the Residential Site Options

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU005	Land to the west of Stallingborough Road, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	+	+	+?
HOU017	Land at 71-85 Hamilton Street and Cleethorpe Road, Grimsby	0	++	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU021	Land west of Great Coates (Church Farm), Grimsby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	0	+	++?
HOU034A	Chapmans Pond, Hawthorne Avenue, Cleethorpes	0	++	--?	--?/--?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	?	+	++?
HOU034C	Land off Pelham Road, Cleethorpes	0	++	--?	--?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	++	?	+	++?
HOU037	Land to west of Cartergate, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	0	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU042	Site of former Clifton Bingo, Grant Street	0	-	--?	++?/--?	0	0	0	--?	0	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU045	Land at Cricket Field and Littlefield Lane	0	-	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	-	+	+?
HOU061A	Weelsby Avenue Depot, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU063A	Land north of Wootton Road, Grimsby	0	++	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	++?
HOU064A	Burwell Drive/Winchester Road, Grimsby	0	++	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	0?	+	+?
HOU068B	Land off Butt Lane	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	+?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU074B	Land at Humberston Road (north of Weelsby Hall Farm (site HOU074B)), Grimsby	0	--	--?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	++	++?
HOU082	Land at South View adjacent to Coach House PH, Humberston	0	-	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	-	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	?	+	++?
HOU084A	Land at Midfield Farm south of Sinderson Road and east of Cherry Close	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+?
HOU086	Land off Weelsby View	0	--	0?	-?/--?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	-	++	+?
HOU087	Land off Louth Road & Side Lane	0	--	--?	-?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	-?
HOU096	Land south of Southern Walk, Scartho, Grimsby	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	-?
HOU097	Land north of South Sea Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	++?
HOU100A	Land south of South Sea Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	0	+	-?
HOU100B	Land south of South Sea Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	0	+	-?
HOU104	Land at Louth Road	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	++?
HOU105A	Land west of Louth Road and opposite Toll Bar School, New Waltham	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	+?
HOU105B	Land west of Louth Road and opposite Toll Bar School, New Waltham	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	+?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU110	Land at Cheapside	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+?
HOU118	Central Parade - Yarborough Estate - Freshney Green, Grimsby	0	++	-?	-?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	--	+	+?
HOU129	Land to the west of Cheapside	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	-	++	0	+	-?
HOU135	Land to the West of Fallowfield Road, Scartho, near Waltham	0	--	-?	-?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	+?
HOU138	Land to the South West of Cheapside, Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	0	-	-?
HOU139	Land to the North of Humberston Avenue	0	-	--?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	-	++	++?
HOU140A	Land at Weelsby Ave Depot, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU141A	Former Matthew Humberston School Playing Fields	0	-	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU146A	Land south of Millennium Park, Humberston Avenue, Humberston	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	+	+?
HOU154	YMCA Peakes Lane	0	++	--?	0?/--?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	-	+	++?
HOU157A	Church Fields, Ashby-cum-Fenby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	-	0	+	--/--?	+	-?
HOU180A	Land north west of Station Road, Habrough	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	-?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU190A	Land east of Ayscough Avenue and north of Healing Road, Stallingborough	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	++	++	0	+	+?
HOU212	Land at Meadow Farm, Healing	0	--	-?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	++	+	0	+	-?
HOU217	Land west of Peaks Parkway, Grimsby	0	--	--?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	-	-	++	-	-	++?
HOU272A	Land at Cartergate, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU274	Land to the south of Station Road and east of Camargue Avenue, Waltham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	++?
HOU281	Land at the south end of Peaks Lane, west of Peaks Parkway (A16), Grimsby	0	--	--?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	-	++	-	+	+?
HOU286A	Land rear of Strands, Waltham Road, Brigsley	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	+	-?
HOU287A	Land north of Woodland Way, (east of Grimsby Road), Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	+?
HOU290	Land Rear of Grove Farm Stables, Station Road, Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	+?
HOU291	Waltham Airfield, Waltham	0	++	0?	0?/--?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	0	-	-?
HOU294	Land off Station Road adjacent to railway station, Stallingborough	0	++	--?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	+?
HOU303	29 - 31 Chantry Lane, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU309	Land at South Sea Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	+	-?
HOU310	Field west of Butt Lane, Laceby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	+?
HOU338	The Old Nurseries, Cheapside, Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU340	Land south of 69-90 Humberston Avenue	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	-?
HOU342	Grimsby West Urban Extension	0	--	--?	-?/--?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	--	+	++?
HOU346	Land off Church Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	++?
HOU346A	Land off Church Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	-	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	++?
HOU346B	Land off Church Lane, Humberston	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	-	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	++?
HOU348	Land to the South West of Cheapside, Waltham (between Eastfields and The Firs Farm House)	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU349A	Land to the South West of Cheapside, Waltham	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU350	Land to the South West of Cheapside, Waltham (north of Millstone	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU351A	Land at Caistor Road, Laceby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	-?
HOU352	Nunsthorpe Campus, Old Junior School, Sutcliffe Avenue, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	?	+	++?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU353	Former Lindsey Lower School Field	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU354A	Duchess Street car park, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	-?
HOU355	Scartho Top Playing Field, Heimdal Road	0	-	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	+?
HOU360	Land south of New Waltham (Millenium Farm)	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+?
HOU361A	Land west of Stallingborough	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	++	0	+	-?
HOU361B	Land west of Stallingborough (south of Little London Farm)	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	++	0	+	-?
HOU362	Land east of Bradley Road, Waltham	0	--	-?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	-	+	-?
HOU363	Chapel Lane, Habrough	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	-?
HOU364	Church Lane, Bradley	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	-	-	+	-	-	-?
HOU365	Land off Coniston Crescent, Humberston	0	--	-?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	++	-?
HOU366	Land east of Ings Lane Waltham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	-	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+?
HOU367	Former Immingham Golf Course	0	--	--?	-?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	--	++	++?
HOU368A	Land east of Bradley Road (Grove Farm site 1)	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	+?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU368B	Land east of Bradley Road (Grove Farm site 2)	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	++?
HOU368C	Land east of Bradley Road (Grove Farm site 3)	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	++?
HOU369	Land south of Main Road Aylesby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	-/--?	+	-?
HOU370	Land north of Main Road, Aylesby	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	-?
HOU371	Land west of Louth Road, Grimsby	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	-?
HOU372	Land west of Cheapside, Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	++	0	-	-?
HOU373	Land of former tower blocks Washdyke Lane	0	++	--?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	?	++	++?
HOU374	Land off Waltham Road (Adjoining Waltham village)	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	-?
HOU375	260 Macaulay Lane, Grimsby	0	++	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	-	++	+?
HOU380	Garth Lane (Alexander Docks), Grimsby	0	++	--?	-?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU381	Bursar Primary School, Bursar Street, Cleethorpes	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	0	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU384	Anita Grove, Cheapside, Waltham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU386	R/o 73 to 105 Granville Street (Garages), Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++ ?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	++	++?
HOU387	Land at Buddleia Close, Healing (Rear of 70 & 72 Stallingborough	0	++	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	+	?	+	-?
HOU388	Eleanor House, 19 Eleanor Street, Grimsby	0	++	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU392	Land west of Grimsby Road, Waltham (south of Torbay Drive)	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	+	+?
HOU394	Habrough Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	++	--	+	+?

Table 5.2: Summary of SA findings for the Employment Site Options

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
ELR001	Pelham Estate, Kings Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?
ELR007	Hall Park Road, Immingham (Formerly Manby Road Business Park)	0	-	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	+	+?
ELR008abce	Europarc Phase III	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	?	+	+?
ELR011	Europarc Phase 4	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	?	++	++?
ELR015a	Great Coates Business Park Moody Lane	0	++	0?	0?/--?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	-	0	-	++	++?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
ELR015b	Great Coates Business Park Moody Lane	0	++	0?	0?/--?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	-	+	++?
ELR016a	Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR016b	Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	+	+	+?
ELR016c	Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	+	+	+?
ELR019	Abengoa Site, Hobson Way	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR020	Land East of Hobson Way, Stallingborough	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR021	Novartis Moody Lane	0	--	0?	--?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR022	Plot Q Kiln Lane	0	++	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	+?
ELR025a	Cristal/Tronox, Laporte Road	0	++	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR025b	Cristal/Tronox, Laporte Road	0	--	0?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR025c	Cristal/Tronox, Laporte Road	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR025d	Cristal/Tronox, Laporte Road	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR025e	Cristal/Tronox, Laporte Road	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	++?
ELR027	Land east of Queens Road	0	++	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR037	Land to the right of Marlin House, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+?

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
ELR039a	BOC	0	--	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR039b	BOC	0	--	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	-	0	?	+	++?
ELR041	Land west of Kings Rd, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	+	++?
ELR042	Former Novertis factory site, Grimsby	0	++	0?	-- ?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR043	Mauxhall Farm, Stallingborough Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	+	++	++?
ELR044	Land off Manby Road, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?

Table 5.3: Summary of SA Findings for Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
BNG001	Station Road, Habrough	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG002	Roxton Wood (Parcel 1)	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG003	Roxton Wood (Parcel 2)	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG004	Roxton Wood (Parcel 3)	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG005	Roxton Wood (Parcel 4)	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG006	Low Farm and Old Hall Farm, Parcel 1	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG007	Low Farm and Old Hall Farm, Parcel 2	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0

Site ID	Site Name	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
BNG008	Low Farm and Old Hall Farm, Parcel 3	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG009	Low Farm and Old Hall Farm, Parcel 4	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0
BNG010	Low Farm and Old Hall Farm, Parcel 5	+?	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0

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

5.3 SA Objective 1 was scoped out of the appraisal of residential and employment site options. 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 North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 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, while proximity to services and facilities, which will also influence levels of car use, is considered under SA Objective 14. The likely effects of all residential and employment site options on this objective are therefore negligible.

5.4 The 10 biodiversity net gain site options will result in minor positive effects as they may help to mitigate the effects of climate change and lower greenhouse gas emissions. However, these effects are largely dependent on the details of what is proposed within the sites.

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

5.5 The majority of agricultural land in North East Lincolnshire is classified under the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system as Grade 3, with some areas of higher quality (Grade 2) in the southern part of North East Lincolnshire (within the Lincolnshire Wolds). The majority of North East Lincolnshire's coastline is developed, with more inland areas generally rural. The majority of site options are located on the outskirts of settlements. Therefore, 62 residential and 19 employment site options are expected to have significant negative effects on this SA objective as they are greenfield land and contain a significant proportion (>=25%) of Grade 1, 2 and/or 3a agricultural land. The majority of the residential sites contain largely Grade 3a agricultural land with only sites HOU310, HOU68B, HOU350, HOU351, HOU351A and HOU370 containing largely Grade 1 or 2 agricultural land. In relation to the employment sites, all of them contain a significant portion of Grade 3a agricultural land and a smaller

portion (<25%) of Grade 1 and 2 agricultural land. The sites with likely or potential significant negative effects are mainly located on the edges of Waltham, Humberston, Grimsby and Stallingborough, as well as the villages of Habrough, Laceby and Aylesby. Only five residential and two employment site options are expected to have minor negative effects as they are greenfield sites but contain a less significant proportion (<25%) of Grade 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land. These sites are located more centrally within Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham. Negative effects associated with the loss of high quality agricultural land will be long-term and permanent and cannot be mitigated.

5.6 However, 24 residential and six employment site options are expected to have significant positive effects as they comprise brownfield land, the redevelopment of which represents more efficient use of land in comparison to the development of greenfield sites. These sites are mainly located within the centre of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham and therefore, development of these sites will support the regeneration of these town centres.

5.7 All of the biodiversity net gain site options are on existing farmland (greenfield land) and therefore would have negligible effects.

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

5.8 The majority of the site options are expected to have negative effects on SA objective 4 (either minor or significant) due to being within at least 1km of a heritage asset. North East Lincolnshire contains a number of large Conservation Areas within the main settlements, including within Grimsby, Great Coast, Cleethorpes, Waltham, Scartho, Humberston, Laceby and Irby upon Humber. Some of the Conservation Areas cover significant parts of the centres of these settlements. There is a total of 17 Conservation Areas in North East Lincolnshire as well as 230 listed buildings and 11 Scheduled Monuments. The majority of the listed buildings are located within Conservation Areas. The number of heritage assets in the northern part of North East Lincolnshire around Immingham, Stallingborough and Habrough is significantly less.

5.9 The majority of the residential and employment site options lie in close proximity to a Conservation Area which also contain the highest concentration of listed buildings. The concentrations of listed buildings outside of Conservation Areas is significantly less, apart from near Grimsby port. In particular, Humberston and Waltham Conservation Areas have the highest number of residential site options adjoining or in close proximity to them. The

residential and employment site options that are located on the edges of settlements tend to lie further from the highest concentrations of heritage assets including Conservation Areas.

5.10 The potential negative effects on this SA objective are uncertain at this stage as they will depend on factors such as the design of the development and whether there are lines of sight between the development and nearby heritage assets. The SA findings will also be updated to take into account heritage site assessments when available.

5.11 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of these site options is negligible.

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

5.12 North East Lincolnshire is bounded to the north east by the Humber Estuary, which is the second largest coastal plain estuary in the UK. The estuary is designated as a SAC, a SPA, a Ramsar site and a SSSI. There are also 32 Local Wildlife Sites and four Local Nature Reserves within the Borough.

5.13 The effects of the site options on this objective are very mixed. Due to the extent of biodiversity assets in the area, many of the site options would have potential negative effects. However, 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 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. If any of the sites for which likely significant negative effects have been identified are allocated in the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan, it is recommended that particular consideration is given to whether biodiversity assets can be conserved or enhanced as part of the proposed new development, or whether alternative provision can be made nearby.

5.14 All 10 of the biodiversity net gain site options would have significant positive effects as they will help to contribute to nature recovery within North East Lincolnshire by providing new habitats for wildlife and improving the biodiversity value of the landscape. The biodiversity net gain site options are

promoted for use as a woodland, wildflower meadow, ponds or drainage features. The biodiversity net gains sites are generally located near each other in two separate areas. Five of the site options lie to the south of Grimsby and the remaining sites are situated at Habrough and within the western rural parts of North East Lincolnshire away from the coast.

SA Objective 5: Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

5.15 All of the residential and employment site options are expected to have negligible effects on SA Objective 5, as they are not within or directly connected via road to an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) (there are none within North East Lincolnshire).

5.16 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of these site options is negligible.

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

5.17 A total of 30 residential site options are located within a Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA) and are therefore expected to have a minor negative effect due to the potential to sterilise minerals resources. All other residential and employment sites are expected to have negligible effects with regards to minerals as the sites do not fall within a MSA. The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of these site options is negligible.

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

5.18 SA Objective 7 was scoped out of the appraisal of residential, employment and biodiversity net gain site options. The location of residential and employment development will not affect the achievement of this objective as effects will depend largely on factors such as the incorporation of waste management systems and recycling within development site options which would be influenced by policies and details submitted at planning application

stage. Biodiversity net gain site options would have no effects as no built development is proposed. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible.

SA Objective 8: Maintain and improve water quality

5.19 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.

5.20 The majority of the employment and all of the residential site options were found to have negative effects on this SA Objective due to the high number of watercourses and the fact that the majority of North East Lincolnshire is covered by Source Protection Zones. A total of 17 residential and four employment site options are considered to have significant negative effects as they contain a watercourse or waterbody or fall within Source Protection Zone 1. These sites are located more inland on the outskirts of Grimsby, and at Laceby, Aylesby, Cleethorpes and Stallingborough. Eight employment site options did not contain a water body or watercourse or fall within a Source Protection Zone. These sites are generally located along the Humber Estuary to the south of Immingham Docks. The remaining residential and employment site options would have minor negative effects as they fall within Source Protection Zones 2 and 3.

5.21 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of these site options is negligible.

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

5.22 Much of the urban area within North East Lincolnshire is located within a high flood risk zone (Flood Zones 2 or 3), which includes the main towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes. The coastline of North East Lincolnshire is protected by way of a sea wall maintained largely by the Environment Agency, with the port areas maintained by the port operators. Large parts of North East Lincolnshire have experienced severe flooding events. Therefore, it is not surprising that the majority of site options fall within Flood Zone 2 and 3 and are at a high risk of flooding. In addition, the higher levels of surface water flood risk

in North East Lincolnshire have resulted in the majority of site options being found to have a likely significant negative effect.

5.23 All of the employment site options and all but seven of the residential site options are likely to have a significant negative effect as they fall within a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding and/or are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 3. These site options are spread across North East Lincolnshire with Flood Zone 3 covering parts of Immingham, Stallingborough, Grimsby and Cleethorpes. The 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding is also rather extensive across the whole of North East Lincolnshire. Four residential site options fall within a 1 in 100 year risk of surface water flooding and/or are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 2 and therefore are likely to have a minor negative effect. The remaining two residential site options (HOU037 and HOU381) would have negligible effects as they are mainly located within Flood Zone 1 and are therefore at a low risk of flooding.

5.24 The biodiversity net gain site options have the potential to reduce the risk of flooding by increasing the levels of vegetation which will help lower run-off. However, the effects on this objective will depend on what is proposed within the site. None of the biodiversity net gain site options fall within Flood Zone 2 or 3. Three biodiversity net gain site options (BNG005, BNG006 and BNG007) fall within an area with a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding and therefore are likely to result in significant positive effect. The remaining biodiversity net gain site options would have negligible effects.

5.25 If any of the sites with potential significant negative effects associated with flood risk are taken forwards for allocation in the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan it is recommended that mitigation requirements are built into any associated site allocation policies, for example the incorporation of SuDS. Where only part of a site is in an area of higher flood risk, consideration should be given to whether built development can be directed to other parts of the site, with the area of higher flood risk remaining as open space, for example.

SA Objective 10: Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

5.26 SA Objective 10 was scoped out of the appraisal of residential, employment and biodiversity net gain site options. 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. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible.

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

5.27 Housing sites that are within walking distance 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. While proximity to healthcare facilities is less relevant when considering employment sites, proximity to open spaces and active travel routes will have positive effects on health.

5.28 All the residential and employment site options perform positively in relation to this SA Objective. This is not surprising as North East Lincolnshire contains a number of large towns and is relatively developed, at least in the southern part. A total of 31 residential site options are expected to have significant positive effects as they are within walking distance (720m) of a healthcare facility, an area of open space and either a footpath or a cycle path. These site options are largely located in and around Grimsby, Immingham, Waltham, Laceby and Cleethorpes. Similarly, 14 employment sites are likely to have significant positive effects due to their proximity to open spaces and footpaths or cycle routes. These sites are located in or near Immingham and Grimsby. The remaining sites are likely to have minor positive effects against this SA objective as they are within 720m of some but not all of these assets. The majority of these site options are located in Habrough, Aylesby, Stallingborough, Humberston and on the outskirts of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Waltham.

5.29 All of the ten biodiversity net gain site options are expected to have minor positive effects on this SA Objective as these sites have the potential to improve existing green infrastructure and open space. Improvements to green infrastructure and open space can offer opportunities for recreation having a positive effect on physical and mental health. However, this largely dependant on the specific proposal and design of the site.

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

5.30 SA Objective 12 was scoped out of the appraisal of residential, employment and biodiversity net gain site options. The effects of new residential and employment 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). Biodiversity net gain sites would have negligible effects due to the nature of the proposals. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible.

SA Objective 13: Create vibrant communities

5.31 SA Objective 13 was scoped out of the appraisal of residential, employment and biodiversity net gain site options. The location of new residential and employment development 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. However, access to services and facilities are assessed under SA Objective 14. Biodiversity net gain sites would have negligible effects due to the nature of the proposals. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible.

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

5.32 The main towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes are the main focus of services and facilities within North East Lincolnshire, although local service centres also provide services and facilities. A total of 35 residential site options are expected to have significant positive effects on this SA Objective as the sites are located at Grimsby or Cleethorpes. These sites are expected to have the best access to areas for recreation and healthcare facilities. An additional 48 residential site options are within 720m of the built-up area of a Local Service Centre and therefore are likely to have minor positive effects on this SA Objective. Only three residential site options (HOU364, HOU157A and

HOU217) are not located within 720m of the built-up areas of Grimsby, Cleethorpes, local service centre or a rural settlement resulting in minor negative effects. These sites are located within the smaller settlements of Bradley and Ashby-cum-Fenby and HOU217 is located away from the settlement edge of Grimsby. These site options offer the least access to services and facilities.

5.33 In relation to employment site options, only three sites (ELR021, ELR042 and ELR008abce) are located within 720m of Grimsby and Cleethorpes. The remaining employment site options are all located beyond this distance, around Immingham, and so would have negligible effects.

5.34 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of all of those site options are negligible.

SA Objective 15: Promote sustainable transport

5.35 Many of the residential and employment site options are expected to have negligible effects on SA Objective 15. This is because these site options are located more than 1.8km from a railway station but are within 450m of a bus stop or cycle path, but not both. This is the case for 41 residential and 11 employment site options. A total of 32 residential and 11 employment site options are likely to have significant positive effects as they are located within 1.8km of a railway station and are within 450m of either a bus stop or a cycle path. These site options are mainly located within Grimsby with sites in Cleethorpes, Stallingborough and Habrough and are therefore in close proximity to Grimsby town, Grimsby Docks, New Clee, Stallingborough, Great Coates and Habrough train stations. Only 18 residential and eight employment site options are likely to have minor negative effects on this objective as they are located more than 1.8km from a railway station and more than 450m from a bus stop and cycle route. A large number of these site options are located in Waltham and Humberston with the remaining sites on the outskirts of Grimsby and smaller villages.

5.36 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of all of those site options are negligible.

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

5.37 Minor positive effects are expected for 47 residential site options, as they would deliver fewer than 100 homes, therefore making some, but not an individually significant, contribution to the total housing requirement of North East Lincolnshire. The location of site options will not influence the mix of housing that is provided onsite – this will instead be determined by North East Lincolnshire Local Plan policies. The remaining 44 residential site options are expected to have significant positive effects, as they would all deliver 100 homes or more.

5.38 The location of employment and biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of all of those site options are negligible.

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

5.39 The Lincolnshire Wolds has been designated as a National Landscape (formerly known as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or AONB). The National Landscape covers the southern part of North East Lincolnshire. The Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study was used to understand the potential impact of development through the site options on North East Lincolnshire's landscape. Areas with a low capacity to accommodate development perform more negatively in the SA as development in these areas is likely to have a more significant impact on the landscape.

5.40 The majority of the sites would have negligible or minor negative effects as these sites fall within areas assessed as having medium or medium-low capacity for development. This includes a total of 56 residential and five employment site options. Only five residential (HOU367, HOU342, HOU157A, HOU118 and HOU394) and four employment (ELR001, ELR007, ELR044 and ELR041) site options are considered to have significant negative effect as these sites fall within areas that have been assessed as having low capacity to accommodate development. These site options include sites on the edge of Immingham and large developments at Grimsby West and Humberston Road, Grimsby urban extension. A total of 22 residential and 13 employment site options fall outside of areas covered by the Landscape Character Assessment.

Therefore, these sites were unable to be appraised and have uncertain effects on this SA Objective.

5.41 None of the site options fall within areas assessed as having a high capacity to accommodate development. Only one residential (HOU005) and four employment site options (ELR037, ELR016b, ELR016c and ELR043) fall within areas assessed as having high-medium capacity to accommodate development. These sites are located on the edges of Immingham.

5.42 A total of five residential site options (HOU310, HOU068B, HOU369, HOU351A and HOU157A) are considered to have mixed effects as they are located within 2km of the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and so have the potential to negatively impact the AONB.

5.43 All 10 of the biodiversity net gain site options are expected to have minor positive effects against this objective as they are likely to have positive effects on the landscape due to their nature. However, these effects are largely dependant on exactly what is proposed within the sites. For example, proposals for the biodiversity net gain sites could include woodland and wildflower creation which would enhance the existing landscape.

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

5.44 The majority of the residential site options (69) are located within 600m of either public transport links or one or more major employment sites and so would have minor positive effects on this SA Objective. A total of eight residential site options are within 600m of public transport links as well as one or more major employment sites. These sites provide the best accessibility to employment opportunities and therefore are likely to have significant positive effects. The majority of these best performing residential sites are located near Immingham, Grimsby, Humberston and Cleethorpes where there are a number of industrial estates. Immingham and Grimsby have the highest concentration of employment areas and offer the best accessibility to employment opportunities. In particular, there are large industrial estates along the Humber Estuary and at Immingham Docks. Only 10 residential site options are not within 600m of either public transport links or one or more major employment sites and so would have minor negative effects.

5.45 The provision of new employment sites is likely to have a positive effect on this objective by ensuring that new job opportunities are provided. Therefore, all employment site options will have positive effects. A total of 17 employment site options are likely to have significant positive effects as they are particularly large sites, over 10 hectares. These employment site options are mainly located near Immingham Docks and large industrial areas along the Humber Estuary between Immingham and Grimsby.

5.46 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of all of those site options are negligible.

SA Objective 19: Provide good education and training opportunities

5.47 The residential site options were considered in relation to their proximity to pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools or colleges. A total of 28 residential site options are located within 600m of at least two of either a pre-school, a primary school, a secondary school or a college and therefore are likely to have significant positive effect. The majority of these sites are located within more central locations in Grimsby, Cleethorpes, Waltham and Immingham. In addition, 28 residential options are within 600m of one of either a primary or secondary school or a college and therefore are likely to have minor positive effects. A similar number of residential site options (31 in total) are located further than 600m from a school or college and are therefore likely to have minor negative effects. The majority of these sites are located within the more rural parts of North East Lincolnshire: Habrough, Stallingborough, Aylesby, Humberston and on the edges of Grimsby and Waltham.

5.48 In relation to the employment site options, the size of the employment development was considered as large sites would likely offer good opportunities for more people to obtain new skills and training opportunities. A total of 21 site options were found to have significant positive effects as those employment sites are over five hectares and are considered large sites. The remaining four site options would have minor positive effects as they are under five hectares. The employment site options are mainly located near Immingham Docks and large industrial areas along the Humber Estuary between Immingham and Grimsby.

5.49 The location of biodiversity net gain site options is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the likely effects of all of those site options are negligible.

Summary

5.50 In terms of the most and least sustainable site options, looking across the suite of SA objectives there are no sites that stand out as being overwhelmingly more or less sustainable than other options.

5.51 Four residential site options have potential significant negative effects across five or more SA objectives: HOU310, HOU367, HOU342 and HOU369. If any of these site options are taken forward in the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan, particular consideration should be given to mitigation.

5.52 The poorest performing employment site option us ELR044, with potential significant negative effects across five SA objectives.

Chapter 6
Sustainability Appraisal findings for the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan

6.1 This chapter sets out the SA findings for the policies and site allocations in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan.

6.2 The policy appraisals are grouped by topic, as they appear in the consultation document. Due the nature of the Local Plan, unless stated otherwise effects are considered to be long-term and permanent. In this part of the SA Report, each policy is appraised individually on its own merit, i.e. without taking into account mitigation that could be provided by other policies. The likely cumulative effects of the Local Plan as a whole are considered in Chapter 7.

6.3 A number of recommendations are made at the end of the chapter in relation to changes which could be made to the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan policies to improve their sustainability performance.

Requirements

6.4 This section presents the appraisals of the following Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan policies:

- Draft Strategic Policy 1: Employment land requirements
- Draft Strategic Policy 2: The housing requirement and delivery

6.5 The likely effects of these policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.1 and described below the table.

Table 6.1: Summary of SA findings for Requirement policies

SA objective	Draft Strategic Policy 1	Draft Strategic Policy 2
SA1: Climate Change	+/-?	--?
SA2: Efficient use of land	--?	--?
SA3: Cultural Heritage	--?	--?

SA objective	Draft Strategic Policy 1	Draft Strategic Policy 2
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	--?	--?
SA5: Air	-?	--?
SA6: Resources	--?	--?
SA7: Waste	0	-?
SA8: Water	--?	--?
SA9: Flooding	0?	0?
SA10: Social Inclusion	+	+/-
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	+	+/-
SA12: Crime	0	0
SA13: Community	+	+/-
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	0
SA16: Housing	0	++
SA17: Landscape	--?	-?
SA18: Economic Growth	++	+
SA19: Education	0	+

Draft Strategic Policy 1: Employment land requirements

6.6 The overall purpose of this strategic policy is to support economic growth in the area over the plan period through the provision of at least 86 hectares of employment land and to safeguard employment land already in use and support the delivery of 6,525 new jobs. As such, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth**. Furthermore, this strategic policy encourages growth in key sectors such as renewable energy and low carbon industries which could increase the generation and use of renewable energy in

the area and more widely. As such, the policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on **SA1: Climate Change**. However, traffic is likely to increase with associated climate change and air pollution impacts. As such, minor negative effects are expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA5: Air**. In addition, the increase in commercial development will put additional pressure on existing infrastructures (water, energy, transport etc.) and so potential significant negative effects are expected on the environmental objectives (**SA3: Cultural Heritage, SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, SA6: Resources, SA8: Water** and **SA17: Landscape**). As the strategic policy aims to provide at least 86 hectares of employment land, some greenfield land may be required and so significant negative effects are expected in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**. All of these effects have uncertainty attached as they are dependent on the distribution of new employment land (proposed site allocations are appraised separately).

6.7 The strategic policy also aims to deliver economic regeneration benefits and investment in the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Urban Area which could provide benefits to the local community. As such, minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion, SA11: Health and Wellbeing** and **SA13: Community**.

6.8 As the policy aims to allocate employment land in sustainable locations that are accessible by the strategic road and rail network it could increase the use of sustainable modes of travel to work. As such, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel**.

Draft Strategic Policy 2: The housing requirement and delivery

6.9 This strategic policy seeks to deliver enough housing to meet North East Lincolnshire's annual housing requirement. As such, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA16: Housing**. The provision of adequate housing would enhance economic growth and increase access to education and training, thereby benefitting the local economy. Additionally, if the levels of growth are provided via large scale developments these could provide new schools on site. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** and **SA19: Education**. Housing growth of this scale would also likely deliver improved health and social infrastructure, including community and leisure facilities as well as increased social interaction. However, people's health and wellbeing could be negatively affected in the short term by construction and there may be more pressure on existing

facilities. As such, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** and **SA13: Community**. In addition, despite increased social interaction and social infrastructure, and the potential for higher contributions towards community facilities, the identity of existing communities could be negatively affected by the scale of growth required. As such mixed effects are also expected for SA10: Social inclusion.

6.10 The delivery of at least 11,178 new homes over the plan period is unlikely to be possible solely on brownfield land within existing urban areas; therefore some greenfield land allocations are likely to be required and significant negative effects are expected in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**. In addition, the new homes will put additional pressure on existing infrastructures (water, energy, transport etc.) and as such significant negative effects are expected on the environmental objectives (**SA3: Cultural Heritage, SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, SA6: Resources, SA8: Water**). Traffic is also likely to increase with associated climate change and air pollution impacts. As such, significant negative effects are expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA5: Air**. All of these effects have uncertainty attached as they are dependent on the distribution of the new housing as well as design (proposed allocation sites are appraised separately). Additional housing is likely to result in increased energy generation and the creation of waste, however the opportunity to use renewable energy sources as well as recycled materials is possible though this depends on local policy and design guidance. As such, minor negative effects with uncertainty are identified for **SA7: Waste**. Negligible effects are identified for the remaining SA objectives as they will rely heavily upon the final design of the sites as well as policy specifications.

Strategic Objectives

6.11 This section presents the appraisal of the strategic objectives set out in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. There are 10 objectives, each of which addresses one of the 10 topics by which the policies are grouped. The 10 objectives support an overarching vision for the Local Plan. The vision has not been appraised within this SA as it is a high level and aspirational statement which would have broadly positive effects across the SA objectives. Instead, the SA focusses on appraising the objectives and policies within the Pre-Submission Local Plan which support and seek to deliver the vision.

6.12 The likely effects of the Local Plan strategic objectives on each SA objective are shown in Table 6.2 and are described below the table.

Table 6.2: Summary of SA findings for the Local Plan Strategic Objectives

SA Objective	SO1: Population	SO2: Climate change	SO3: Economy	SO4: Housing	SO5: Social and health inequality	SO6: Built, historic and natural environment	SO7: Transport	SO8: Town centres and local facilities	SO9: Design	SO10: Minerals and Waste
SA1: Climate Change	0	++	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	0	+	0	++	0	0	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	-?	-?	0	++	0	0	++	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	+	-?	-?	0	++	0	0	0	0
SA5: Air	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
SA6: Resources	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++
SA7: Waste	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++
SA8: Water	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	+	0	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	0
SA11: Health and wellbeing	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	++	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	++	++	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	0
SA15: Sustainable travel	+	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	++	0
SA16: Housing	++	0	0	++	+	-?	0	0	0	0
SA17: Landscape	0	0	-?	-?	0	++	0	0	++	0
SA18: Economic Growth	++	0	++	0	+	-?	0	0	0	0
SA19: Education	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0

SO1 Population

6.13 The first objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will meet the development needs and facilitate economic development by supporting population growth. Therefore, minor positive effects are likely in relation to **SA10: Social inclusion**, **SA13: Community**, **SA14: Services and Facilities**, **SA15: Sustainable travel** and **SA19: Education** as the objective supports growth within North East Lincolnshire. Significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA18: Economic Growth** as the strategic objective sets out a requirement of at least 86.06 ha of economic development and 11,178 homes to be delivered by 2043.

SO2 Climate change

6.14 The second objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will make the fullest possible contribution to the mitigation of, and adaption to, climate change and work towards minimising natural resource, waste, energy use and pollution. The objective also recognises the role of green and blue infrastructure and nature-based solutions in addressing and mitigating the consequences of climate change. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA5: Air**, **SA6: Resources**, **SA7: Waste** and **SA8: Water**. The objective also aims to respond to the increasing risk of flooding and mitigate flood risk resulting in significant positive effect on **SA9: Flooding**. Minor positive effect against **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** as the objective recognises the impact that climate change has on species and their habitats. Finally, the objective supports opportunities for sustainable transport use which is likely to result in a minor positive effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel**.

SO3 Economy

6.15 The third Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan objective outlines that the Plan will support environmentally responsive economic growth by creating the conditions for more and better-paid jobs, raising skills levels and strengthening North East Lincolnshire's economic competitiveness. The objective also promotes rural regeneration and diversification, including strengthening tourism. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** as the objective supports sustainable and diverse growth and the creation of employment opportunities. A minor positive effect is

expected in relation to **SA19: Education** as the objective will help with skills development. This is reinforced by the critical success factor relating to job creation and the development of skills and training. The objective refers to environmentally responsive economic growth, and therefore a minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**. A minor positive effect is likely for **SA10: Social inclusion** as the objective will support the creation of more and better-paid jobs. However, supporting local economic growth has the potential to result in minor negative effects against **SA3: Cultural Heritage**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as a result of development. These effects are uncertain as they are largely dependant on the location and nature of development and onsite activities.

SO4 Housing

6.16 The fourth objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will significantly boost housing supply to meet existing and future needs. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA16: Housing**. A minor positive effect is expected against **SA13: Community** as the objective supports the delivery of high-quality market and affordable housing with specific provision for the elderly, special needs housing and Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. A minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of Land** as the critical success factors seek to bring empty homes back into use and deliver regeneration of brownfield sites. However, supporting housing delivery has the potential to result in minor negative effects against **SA3: Cultural Heritage**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as a result of development. These effects are uncertain as they are largely dependant on the location of development.

SO5 Social and health inequality

6.17 The fifth objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will narrow the gap between social and health inequality by addressing issues of housing choice, providing accessible employment and training opportunities, promoting healthier lifestyles, providing healthcare and community facilities, improving educational attainment and cultural facilities; and protecting and maintaining accessible good quality open space, sport and recreation facilities. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion** and **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** as the objective will have a positive impact on improving mental and physical health while

lowering levels of deprivation. The critical success factors reinforce these effects through promoting healthy lifestyles, directing hot-food takeaways to appropriate locations and delivering quality open space, sport and recreation facilities. Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA13: Community**, **SA14: Services and facilities**, **SA16: Housing**, **SA18: Economic Growth** and **SA19: Education** as the objective will support improvements to housing, education, services and facilities, employment and training opportunities. A minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel** as the critical success factors specifically seek to promote active travel.

SO6 Built, historic and natural environment

6.18 The sixth objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will ensure that development safeguards and enhances the built, historic and natural environment of North East Lincolnshire. The objective also encourages the use of brownfield land and directing development to areas that cause the least harm whilst delivering biodiversity net gain. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of Land**, **SA3: Cultural Heritage**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as the objective minimises harm to and enhances the built, historic and natural environment where possible. These policy requirements may impact the delivery of commercial and housing development, and as such, potential minor negative effects are identified in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA18: Economic Growth**. However, this is uncertain as it would be dependent on the location of the employment and housing sites.

SO7 Transport

6.19 The seventh objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will reduce the need to travel and improve accessibility to employment and services via sustainable modes of transport. The Plan will also provide the necessary infrastructure to support sustainable growth. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected against **SA15: Sustainable Travel**. Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA5: Air** and **SA6: Resources** as the objective aims to reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of sustainable forms of transport which could lower reliance on the private car. This would have a positive impact on air quality and lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

SO8 Town centres and local facilities

6.20 The eighth objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will strengthen the vitality and viability of town centres within North East Lincolnshire. The objective also will support regeneration and the retention of community and service facilities. The critical success factors additionally seek to improve the attractiveness and range of offer of town and district centres and sustain a network of local centres providing for day-to-day needs. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**, **SA13: Community** and **SA14: Services and Facilities** as the objective will ensure the protection and enhancement of services and facilities which includes community facilities and potentially healthcare.

SO9 Design

6.21 The nineth objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will apply the principles of good sustainable and inclusive design; promote safe, secure and accessible streets and places; and recognise the importance of supporting and strengthening local character and distinctiveness. This will improve the quality of development, resulting in minor positive effects in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage**, **SA13: Community**, **SA15: Sustainable Travel** and **SA17: Landscape**.

SO10 Minerals and Waste

6.22 The final objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan ensures that the Plan will safeguard mineral resources and support mineral infrastructure. The objective will also promote the waste hierarchy and sustainably manage waste. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected against **SA7: Waste** and a minor positive effect in relation to **SA6: Resources**.

Spatial Strategy

6.1 This section presents the appraisals of the following Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan policies:

- Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy
- Draft Strategic Policy 4: Distribution of housing growth
- Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries

- Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic Wedges
- Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure

6.2 The likely effects of these policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.3 and described below the table.

Table 6.3: Summary of SA findings for the Spatial Strategy Policies

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 3	Draft Strategic Policy 4	Draft Strategic Policy 5	Draft Strategic Policy 6	Draft Strategic Policy 7
SA1: Climate Change	+/-	0	0	+	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	+/-?	+?	+	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	-?	-?	+	++	+/-?
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	-?	-?	+	++	+
SA5: Air	+/-	0	+	+	+
SA6: Resources	0	-?	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	-?	0	+	0
SA9: Flooding	-?	0?	+	+	+
SA10: Social inclusion	+/-	+	+	+	++
SA11: Health and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	++
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	+/-	+	++	+	++
SA14: Services and Facilities	++/-	+	++	0	++
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	0	+	+	+
SA16: Housing	+	+	+	-	+

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 3	Draft Strategic Policy 4	Draft Strategic Policy 5	Draft Strategic Policy 6	Draft Strategic Policy 7
SA17: Landscape	+/-	-?	++	++	+/-?
SA18: Economic Growth	+	+	+	-	0
SA19: Education	++/-	+	+	0	++

Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy

6.3 Draft Strategic Policy 1 sets out the settlement hierarchy which development should follow. Minor positive effects are identified in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA5: Air** as the policy ensures that development is directed towards the most sustainable locations at the top of the settlement hierarchy with mainly infill development allowed in the less sustainable rural settlements. Development will be focussed in locations with the greatest accessibility to services and public transport links, thereby reducing congestion and pollution. However, the policy is also likely to have a minor negative effect on these objectives (resulting in mixed effects overall) as new development is likely to cause increased congestion in the urban areas, contributing to pollution and the effects of climate change, particularly as the majority of commuters outside the urban areas of Grimsby and Cleethorpes travel by car.

6.4 The policy prioritises development at Grimsby and Cleethorpes which could offer opportunities for the development of brownfield land. However, future development is most likely to be on greenfield sites which could include high quality agricultural land. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected against **SA2: Efficient use of Land**. The mixed effect is uncertain as it will be dependent on the exact location of new development.

6.5 In terms of the historic environment, a minor negative effect is identified in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** as there is potential for development to have adverse impacts on the setting of heritage assets. There is a high concentration of historical assets within Grimsby and Cleethorpes where most development will be focused.

6.6 North East Lincolnshire is bounded to the north east by the Humber Estuary. The estuary is designated as a SAC, a SPA, a Ramsar site and a SSSI. The policy focuses some development at brownfield sites which generally have lower biodiversity value, but the majority of development will still occur on

greenfield land. The take up of greenfield land could result in loss of habitat and biodiversity. In addition, new development can likely increase congestion and reduce air quality levels, and poor air quality can have a negative effect on wildlife and the natural environment. Therefore, a minor negative effect is expected in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

6.7 The majority of Grimsby and some of Cleethorpes centre falls within Flood Zone 2 or 3 due to both urban areas lying on the banks of the Humber Estuary. Given that the policy directs most development to Grimsby and Cleethorpes and some development to Immingham, there is the potential for an increase in flood risk within these areas. However, the effects are dependant on the exact location of development. Therefore, a minor negative effect is expected in relation to **SA9: Flooding**.

6.8 Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion** and **SA13: Community** as directing development to the main urban areas will support regeneration within these areas. It will also encourage residents to live in the same areas that they may work within. Only small-scale development on infill sites will be supported in rural areas. Therefore, not providing enough development and not allowing growth of rural areas could negatively impact rural communities and mixed effects overall are identified for SA10 and SA13. The policy supports development within the main urban areas in North East Lincolnshire which are likely to have the best accessibility to health services. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected against **SA11: Health and wellbeing**.

6.9 The policy directs development to the urban areas of Grimsby and Cleethorpes. These are considered sustainable locations with good access to services and facilities including education or these can be more easily provided. However, providing mainly smaller scale development principally limited to infill development will not support the viability of rural communities or enhance services and facilities within these areas. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are expected in relation to **SA14: Services and Facilities** and **SA19: Education**. In addition, directing most development towards the main urban areas in North East Lincolnshire will provide the easiest access to public transport options including active travel from new development. This will help reduce reliance on the private car to commute and travel to services. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected against **SA15: Sustainable Travel**.

6.10 Directing development towards the main urban areas will facilitate the development of brownfield sites. However, it is still likely that there will be

greenfield development which could have a negative impact on the local landscape. Allowing mainly infill development within rural settlements and minor rural settlements will help protect the countryside from development and reduce the risk of coalescence between settlements. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected in relation to **SA17: Landscape**. The effect on this objective is uncertain and dependant on the location of specific development sites.

6.11 Minor positive effects are expected on **SA16: Housing** and **SA18: Economic Growth** as directing development towards the main urban areas and local service centres offers the best accessibility to job opportunities and housing. In addition, providing housing close to employment opportunities in the urban areas will reduce the number of residents commuting out of North East Lincolnshire for work. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Strategic Policy 4: Distribution of housing growth

6.12 The strategic policy directs the majority of homes to the urban areas and fringes of Grimsby and Cleethorpes which may reduce the need to develop greenfield land. As such, a potential minor positive effect is identified in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**. Promoting higher densities of development in urban locations and local service centres is expected to help promote access to healthcare, education, retail and community facilities. Therefore, minor positive effects are also expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**, **SA13: Community, SA14**: **Services and Facilities** and **SA19: Education**. Furthermore, the urban areas and local service centres host a wide range of employers within North East Lincolnshire, as such, a minor positive effect is therefore also expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth**.

6.13 By directing the majority of housing growth to areas that benefit from good access to sustainable transport links, the strategic policy is expected to help reduce the need to travel by car in the plan area. A minor positive effect is therefore also expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable travel.**

6.14 While the policy only sets out approximate percentages for new homes for the different settlement levels, it will help to support the delivery of housing to meet local need. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected for in relation to **SA16: Housing**. Furthermore, as this strategic policy promotes development across North East Lincolnshire it may help to address existing issues of deprivation and therefore a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion**.

6.15 Given that the strategic policy does not include requirements for developments to be designed to ensure that there is no harm to designated or locally valuable heritage, ecological, landscape areas and features, a minor negative effect is expected in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage, SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, SA6: Resources, SA8: Water and SA17: Landscape**. All of these effects have uncertainty attached as they are dependent on the design and siting of the new homes (proposed site allocations are appraised separately).

Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries

6.16 Draft Strategic Policy 5 focuses most development within defined development boundaries and requires that development should give regard to the quality of agricultural land to be developed which could help ensure that high quality agricultural land is preserved. In addition, development proposed within development boundaries will need to take into account measures to address any contamination of the site. The policy does allow for development in the open countryside; however, this is in very limited circumstances and only where certain criteria are met. The policy also supports the conversion of disused existing buildings where its immediate setting is enhanced. Overall, a minor positive effect is therefore expected in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**.

6.17 The Policy will also ensure that the potential impacts of new development on heritage assets, settlement character, local landscape and biodiversity and geodiversity are considered within a development proposal, including impacts on green spaces, paddocks and orchards that contribute to settlement character. The policy focuses most development within development boundaries and only supports development outside of those areas where specific criteria are met. This will help to contain built development and prevent sprawl into open countryside. Development proposals located within and adjacent to the inside edge of defined settlement boundaries are required to support opportunities for green and blue infrastructure, increase biodiversity and not have a negative effect on the settlement edge or its relationship with the countryside. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected for **SA3: Cultural heritage** and **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** while a significant positive effect is expected for **SA17: Landscape**.

6.18 A minor positive effect is expected in relation **SA5: Air** as development proposals are required to consider the impact of development on air quality. The policy requires development proposals to take into account flood risk which

could encourage development to be located away from areas of high flood risk. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA9: Flooding**.

6.19 The policy supports development within the open countryside that has been identified through the neighbourhood planning process. It also requires all development proposals within development boundaries to take into account connectivity, advice from the Health and Safety executive, the need to protect the amenity of existing and future occupiers, and to consider the provision of services, including healthcare. In addition, proposals within and adjacent to the inside edge of defined boundaries, are required to respond to opportunities to contribute to the network of green and blue infrastructure and increase biodiversity. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected against **SA10: Social inclusion** and **SA11: Health and wellbeing**.

6.20 Significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA13: Community** and **SA14: Services and facilities** as all development proposals within development boundaries are required to take into account the provision of services which includes education, healthcare, community retail and recreation. Restricting sprawling new development outside of development boundaries will also help to retain the identity of settlements, benefitting communities. In addition, development proposals beyond settlement boundaries will be supported where it supports the rural economy including rural leisure and promotes the retention and development of local services and community facilities. Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable travel** as development proposals are required to take into account connectivity, access to a development and traffic generation.

6.21 Draft Strategic Policy 5 is supportive of development which could result in the delivery of housing to meet the need of North East Lincolnshire. Development is also permitted in the open countryside where it consists of affordable housing to meet specific local needs. The requirement to protect the amenity of existing and future occupiers may also help to make new homes more liveable. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected against **SA16: Housing**. Minor positive effects are also expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** and **SA19: Education** as the policy states that development will be supported in the open countryside where it supports the rural economy. The policy also states that all development proposals are required to take into account the provision of services which includes education. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic Wedges

6.22 Draft Strategic Policy 6 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**. The policy aims to conserve and enhance local wildlife and protect links between wildlife sites to support wildlife corridors, including provision of biodiversity net gain sites. The policy also requires development proposals within the Strategic Wedge to have regard to opportunities to improve the quality and function of green and blue infrastructure with regard to the green and blue infrastructure network outlined in the North East Lincolnshire Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. The policy aims to prevent the physical merging of settlements and maintain openness, preserving their separate identity, local character and historic character; and green infrastructure value. In addition, development proposals within a Strategic Wedge are expected to retain the open and undeveloped character of the Strategic Wedge. Development proposals adjacent to Strategic Wedges should demonstrate that they will not adversely impact the reasoning for the designation of the Strategic Wedge taking into account scale, siting, layout design, materials and landscape treatment. Therefore, significant positive effects are also expected for **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape**.

6.23 A minor positive effect is identified for **SA8: Water** as development proposals in Strategic Wedges will be expected to provide opportunities to improve the quality and function of blue infrastructure within the Strategic Wedge. This will ensure that development does not have a negative impact on water quality and will contribute further to the significant positive effect on biodiversity. A minor positive effect is also likely in relation to **SA9: Flooding** as Strategic Wedges will help to retain areas of undeveloped permeable land around settlements, aiding flood risk mitigation.

6.24 Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA10: Social inclusion**, **SA11: Health and wellbeing** and **SA13: Community** as Strategic Wedges will provide areas of green infrastructure which will include opportunities for formal and informal recreation. Strategic Wedges will also offer communities direct and continuous links to the countryside. This will enhance opportunities for physical activity, having a positive impact on mental and physical health. Furthermore, this policy will maintain and enhance the network of footpaths, cycleways and bridleways, and their links to the countryside, to retain and enhance public access. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Transport**.

6.25 Minor positive effects are also expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA5: Air** because the policy supports public access to the open

countryside by active travel, which will reduce reliance on the private car and associated emissions. The policy also intends Strategic Wedges to act as a 'green lung'.

6.26 Minor negative effects are expected regarding **SA16: Housing** and **SA18: Economic Growth** as the designation of Strategic Wedges could restrict development on the edges of settlement, including housing and employment development. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure

6.27 Draft Strategic Policy 7 requires contributions towards nature-based solutions and the ecosystem services provided by natural assets, including habitat mitigation provision and biodiversity net gain. This will have a positive impact on habitat creation and local biodiversity. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**. The policy ensures that proposals for telecommunications development should be appropriate in terms of siting and appearance and does not detract from the landscape or urban character of the area while according with Draft Policy 4: Landscape. The policy also requires adequate screening and/or landscape measures with the setting and scenic beauty of the National Landscape to be considered. However, even with the mitigation proposed through the policy, telecommunications development will likely have a negative impact on the local landscape due to their size and scale, and negative effects from other types of built infrastructure may also occur. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are expected against **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape**. However, the effects are dependant on the location of development. A minor positive effect is expected against **SA9: Flooding** as the policy will ensure that contributions are sought towards drainage and surface water management and flood defences. This will help reduce flood risk associated with new development and manage surface water levels.

6.28 Draft Strategic Policy 7 will support developments to create, expand or alter service facilities, including community facilities, schools, health facilities and key infrastructure. In addition, contributions will be sought for education which includes primary, secondary and special education needs. Contributions will also be sought towards delivering health infrastructure which includes doctor's surgeries and pharmacies. This will enhance the availability and accessibility of these services for new and existing residents, and ensure that new development doesn't lead to existing facilities being overloaded. The Policy

will also seek contributions towards open space or accessible green space, sport, recreation and play space, which will have a positive impact on improving physical health. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion**, **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**, **SA13: Community**, **SA14: Services and Facilities** and **SA19: Education**.

6.29 The Policy states that contributions will be sought towards highway improvements, public transport provision and active travel provision. This will help to meet the demand on the transport network as a result of new development. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel**. While improvements to the highways network could be seen as encouraging car use, it is inevitable that there will be some level of car use from new development and ensuring that there is capacity on the highways network will reduce congestion and associated safety and air quality issues. A minor positive effect is therefore likely for **SA5: Air**. A minor positive effect is also expected against **SA16: Housing** as the policy requires contributions to be sought towards affordable housing. This will support the delivery of affordable housing provision in North East Lincolnshire.

Climate change, Flooding and Energy

6.30 This section presents the appraisals of the following Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan policies:

- Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood Risk
- Draft Policy 1: Water Management
- Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure
- Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living

6.31 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.4 and are described below the table.

Table 6.4: Summary of SA findings for the Climate change, Flooding and Energy Policies

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 8	Draft Policy 1	Draft Strategic Policy 9	Draft Policy 2
SA1: Climate Change	++	+	++	++

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 8	Draft Policy 1	Draft Strategic Policy 9	Draft Policy 2
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	+	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	+/-?	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	+	+	+/-?	0
SA5: Air	0	0	+	0
SA6: Resources	0	+	++	++
SA7: Waste	0	+	0	+
SA8: Water	+	++	0	0
SA9: Flooding	++	0	+	0
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	+	0	+	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0	+	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	0	0	0	0
SA16: Housing	0	0	0	+
SA17: Landscape	+	0	+/-?	+
SA18: Economic Growth	+	0	0	0
SA19: Education	0	0	0	0

Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood Risk

6.32 Draft Strategic Policy 8 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA9: Flooding** as the overarching purpose of the policy is to reduce and manage flood risk. Developments are required to have regard to the requirements of the flood risk sequential test and the exceptions test where necessary. The Policy requires development proposals to demonstrate that a flood risk assessment has been undertaken, no unacceptable increase in flood

risk, incorporation of SuDS and that climate-resilient nature-based solutions, including tree, woodland and hedgerow planting, have been prioritised. The policy also sets requirements for flood defence infrastructure, including the maintenance of a 15 metre buffer clear of development from the toe of the existing defences between the ports of Immingham and Grimsby. The policy also seeks to ensure that development proposals consider the restoration, improvement or provision of additional flood defence infrastructure.

6.33 Draft Strategic Policy 8 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** as by aiming to minimise flood risk and prioritising nature-based solutions that are resilient to climate change, the policy will mitigate against the likely effects of climate change. Draft Strategic Policy 8 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy promotes natural flood management, including tree, woodland and hedgerow planting, in combination with other aspects of green and blue infrastructure through an integrated approach across the site. The management of flood risk will also help to avoid the adverse effects of flooding on habitats and species that can occur. The Policy is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA8: Water** as the policy seeks to ensure that development proposals do not prevent access to any watercourse for maintenance, clearance, repair of replacement.

6.34 Draft Strategic Policy 8 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** as mitigating flood risk is expected to help protect people's health and wellbeing. A minor positive effect on **SA18: Economic Growth** as effectively managing flood risk will benefit the economy of North East Lincolnshire. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 1: Water Management

6.35 Draft Policy 1 seeks to ensure the effective management of water including improving water efficiency, adequate management of foul water and minimising the need to discharge water into sewers. The policy also promotes nature-based solutions, including the use of sustainable drainage systems. Opportunities should be taken to include surface water retention basins and rainwater harvesting, to manage water and encourage reuse and recycling. This will ensure that development does not have a negative impact on water quality. The policy also requires that where development is proposed within a Source Protection Zone, the potential for any risk to groundwater resources and groundwater quality must be assessed and it must be demonstrated that these

would be protected. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA8: Water**.

6.36 Draft Policy 1 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** as the requirements for sustainable water supplies and the efficient use of water will help North East Lincolnshire adapt to climate change, including increasing droughts and flood events. This will also support the efficient use of water and reduces the chances of water scarcity by improving water efficiency. The policy also requires residential development to demonstrate a water efficiency standard of 110 litres per person per day. Commercial and industrial development must also prepare a Water Resources Assessment to determine the sources, extent, dependability and quality of water resources and support their efficient use and control. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected against **SA6: Resources**.

6.37 Development proposals that have the potential to impact upon surface and ground water are required to consider the objectives and programme of measures set out in the Humber River Basin District Management Plan. This will ensure that development proposals do not have a negative effect on the Humber River Basin which includes a number of protected sites within the Humber Estuary and its tributaries. The use of nature-based water management and wastewater treatment solutions may also provide additional ecosystem service benefits. Any nature-based solutions should reflect the North East Lincolnshire Green and Blue Infrastructure Study. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

6.38 A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA7: Waste** as development proposals are required to demonstrate that adequate foul water treatment is available. In addition, the policy also requires sustainable sewage systems to be provided for the collection and treatment of foul water. This will ensure that the existing sewage infrastructure is not overloaded, minimising the need to discharge water into sewers.

6.39 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure

6.40 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA6: Resources**. The policy seeks to maximise renewable energy generation capacity and the amount of energy drawn from district heat networks. It also supports the co-location of energy and

heat generators and users to take advantage of surplus heat and energy. The policy is supportive of small-scale and community-led projects within North East Lincolnshire, supporting the drive to achieve net zero for the Council by 2030 and for North East Lincolnshire as a whole by 2050. Encouraging the development of renewable and low carbon infrastructure may help reduce the reliance on fossil fuels which emit greenhouse gas emissions. The use of district heat networks and the co-location of energy and heat generators may support the more efficient use of surplus heat and energy.

6.41 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land** as the policy states that it will consider the land, including land stability, contamination, soils resources and loss of best and most versatile agricultural land in light of development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. The policy also requires proposals for ground-based utility and commercial scale solar development to avoid Grade 1 or 2 agricultural land and, in specified circumstances involving Grade 3a land, to justify the proposed location and assess individual and cumulative impacts on the supply of best and most versatile agricultural land. Proposals must also assess the impact on the viability of an affected farm unit. The policy also identifies broad areas for onshore wind energy development which includes to the south of settlements of the Humberston, New Waltham and Waltham; east of the A18; west and east of the A1173; A180 corridor; and, north west and south east of Immingham, and within the South Humber Bank employment zone.

6.42 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** as the policy states that it will consider the historic environment, including individual and groups of heritage assets above and below ground, and the impact of proposals on their settings, when considering development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. However, proposals for renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure could still have a negative impact on known and unknown heritage assets. This potential effect is uncertain as it is dependent on the specific nature and location of renewables development.

6.43 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** as the policy states that it will consider biodiversity, geodiversity and nature conservation, with regard given to the findings of the site and project specific HRA and potential impacts on SPA birds when considering development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. The policy also requires, where appropriate, details for the decommission of these

systems, which includes site restoration with ensuring minimal adverse impact on amenity, landscape and biodiversity, whilst acknowledging opportunities for the enhancement of these features. However, development proposals could still have a negative impact on local biodiversity and wildlife habitats although this is uncertain as it is dependent on the specific nature and location of renewables development.

6.44 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA5: Air** as the policy states that it will consider impacts on air quality when considering development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. In addition, the generation of renewable energy may help reduce the reliance on fossil fuels which emit harmful emissions. Draft Strategic Policy 9 is also expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA9: Flooding** as the policy states that it will consider the potential impact of development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems in terms of increased flood risk.

6.45 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** and **SA8: Water** as the policy states that it will consider noise, air quality, water quality, traffic, vibration, dust, visual impact and accessibility for pedestrians and horse riders when considering development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. These considerations will help to improve health and wellbeing in North East Lincolnshire and reduce the negative impact on local and residential amenity. Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA13: Community** as the policy states that development of utility and commercial scale solar or onshore wind will be expected to demonstrate a benefit to local communities, taking into account the Community Benefits Guidance for Onshore Wind in England. In addition, proposals for onshore wind will only be permitted on areas identified suitable within adopted Neighbourhood Plans and impacts identified through local community consultation have been addressed.

6.46 Draft Strategic Policy 9 is expected to have a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect in relation to **SA17: Landscape** as the policy states that it will consider the scale and nature of the impacts on landscapes and townscapes, having regard to the Landscape Character Assessment and impact on the setting and scenic beauty of the National Landscape when considering development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. The policy also identifies appropriate areas for the permitted development of proposals for onshore wind energy, including Flat Open Farmland south of the settlements of Humberston, New Waltham and

Waltham, Wooded Open Farmland east of the A18, and east and west of the A1173 and Open Farmland. The policy includes provision for the decommission of these systems, which includes site restoration with minimal adverse impact on landscape, whilst acknowledging opportunities for the enhancement of these features. However, renewable energy development can still have a negative impact on the landscape and the countryside, including visual impacts although the effects are uncertain as they are dependent on the specific nature and location of renewables developments.

6.47 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living

6.48 Draft Policy 2 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** and **SA6: Resources** as the policy seeks to promote the principles of an 'energy hierarchy' to achieve energy efficient and low carbon development. The energy hierarchy prioritises different means of reducing carbon emissions. This includes measures to promote energy efficiency, including through the provision of energy efficiency and low carbon technology, development design and the use of materials, in terms of embodied carbon and energy efficiency. In addition, applications supporting energy efficiency and low carbon heating improvements to existing buildings will be considered favourably. This is also expected to contribute to these positive effects.

6.49 Draft Policy 2 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA7: Waste** as the policy seeks to minimise waste in major development schemes and promotes the re-use of material derived from excavation and demolition.

6.50 A minor positive effect is likely in relation to **SA16: Housing** as the requirements of the policy should ensure that new housing developments are built to a high standard of energy efficiency, improving the quality of housing stock. Energy efficiency and low carbon heating improvements to existing homes will also be supported. A minor positive effect is also likely in relation to **SA17: Landscape** as proposals for development should consider landform, layout, building orientation, massing and Landscaping.

6.51 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

The Natural Environment

6.52 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing
- Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network
- Draft Policy 4: Landscape
- Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation
- Draft Policy 6: Biodiversity and geodiversity
- Draft Policy 7: Habitat mitigation - South Humber Bank

6.53 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.5 and are described below the table

Table 6.5: Summary of SA findings for the Natural Environment policies

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 3	Draft Strategic Policy 10	Draft Policy 4	Draft Policy 5	Draft Policy 6	Draft Policy 7
SA1: Climate Change	+	+	+	0	+	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	0	0	0	+
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	+	+	0	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	+	++	+	+	++	++
SA5: Air	+	+	+	0	0	0
SA6: Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	+	0	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	+	+	+	0	0

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 3	Draft Strategic Policy 10	Draft Policy 4	Draft Policy 5	Draft Policy 6	Draft Policy 7
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0	+	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	++	+	0	++	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	+	+	0	+	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	++	0	+	0	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	+	0	0	0	0
SA16: Housing	0	0	-	0	-?	0
SA17: Landscape	0	+	++	+	0	0
SA18: Economic Growth	0	0	-	0	-?	0
SA19: Education	0	0	0	0	0	0

Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing

6.54 Draft Policy 3 policy focuses on creating and supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities by improving physical and mental health within North East Lincolnshire. The policy states that development proposals are expected to promote, support and enhance physical and mental health and wellbeing, and thus contribute to reducing health inequalities. The policy further states that where potential adverse health impacts are identified, the developer will need to demonstrate how these will be addressed and mitigated, with overall improvements to health. The role of well-connected communities is also discussed, with accessible and convenient health care facilities a priority, either through public transport or walking and cycling routes. The policy supports proposals that utilise opportunities for the multi-use and co-location of healthcare facilities with other services and facilities. It also requires schemes to create or enhance allotments, orchards or community gardens and to ensure that quality green and blue infrastructure provides adequate access to nature. This will have a positive effect on mental and physical health. The policy also

includes criteria to avoid adverse health effects as a result of hot food takeaways, including ensuring they are not located in close proximity to schools or in areas with high childhood obesity levels. The policy also requires the submission of a Health Impact Assessment for developments above 150 dwellings. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** and **SA14: Services and Facilities**.

6.55 Draft Policy 3 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA13: Community** as the policy recognises the role of nature and community participation in health and wellbeing and seeks to ensure that quality green and blue infrastructure provides adequate access to nature for its benefits to mental and physical health and wellbeing and potential to overcome health inequalities. The policy also requires development (where appropriate) to create or enhance the role of allotments, orchards, or community gardens to provide access to healthy, fresh and locally produced food. Draft Policy 3 states that proposals for new healthcare facilities should relate well to public transport services, walking and cycling routes and be easily accessible to all sectors of the community. It also states that proposals which utilise opportunities for the multi-use and co-location of healthcare facilities with other services and facilities, and thus co-ordinate local care and provide convenience for the community, will be supported. This will contribute towards mitigating carbon emissions by reducing the need to travel by private car and promoting the use of more sustainable modes of transport such as walking and cycling. Therefore, the policy is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA5: Air** and **SA15: Sustainable Transport**.

Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network

6.56 Draft Strategic Policy 10 seeks to protect, enhance and expand North East Lincolnshire's green and blue infrastructure network. It is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**, as it requires development proposals to retain and enhance existing green spaces, habitat corridors, watercourses and floodplains and strengthen links to the wider green and blue infrastructure network. The requirement for long-term management and maintenance should help ensure that these benefits are sustained. A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA17: Landscape**, as the policy requires the retention and enhancement of green spaces, watercourses, floodplains and habitat corridors and seeks to enhance the character and usability of places.

6.57 The policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, as green and blue infrastructure is identified as a key component of creating climate-resilient places. Major developments must deliver climate adaptation benefits and use nature-based solutions as the default response to flood risk and urban heating. A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA5: Air Quality**, as additional green infrastructure may help intercept pollutants, provide urban cooling and encourage active travel.

6.58 Minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA8: Water Quality** and **SA9: Flooding**, as major developments must incorporate multifunctional sustainable drainage that improves water quality and manages flood risk. Retaining watercourses and floodplains should also reduce surface water runoff and support natural flood management.

6.59 A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**, as the policy promotes recreation, inclusive access and improved connections for walking and cycling. A minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion**, as major developments must address gaps in provision and inequalities in access to green and blue infrastructure. A minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA13: Community** as accessible green and blue spaces can provide opportunities for recreation, leisure and social interaction.

6.60 Draft Strategic Policy 10 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel**, as development must strengthen links for people and active travel. However, it is recognised that some routes may primarily support recreational journeys rather than travel to employment or services.

6.61 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 4: Landscape

6.62 The overall purpose of Draft Policy 4 is to protect and enhance the landscape. It requires development to have regard to the landscape context and type in which the development is located and requires provision for the conservation and enhancement of the varied landscape character in the Borough, including protecting designated areas such as the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape. Developers must aim to incorporate landscape buffers and enhance landscape quality with suitable planting. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected in relation to **SA17: Landscape**. Draft Policy 4 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage**

as the policy states that development must take opportunities where appropriate, to retain, protect and restore elements that contribute to historic landscape character.

6.63 Draft Policy 4 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA9: Flooding** as the policy states that developers must complete a site specific landscape appraisal, and submit a landscaping scheme for all development where appropriate, which complements the character and appearance of the site, climate change and flood alleviation where appropriate, and improves local biodiversity and levels of amenity. The policy also encourages development to retain, enhance and protect existing trees and hedgerows and incorporate new street trees which offer amenity, biodiversity and landscape value. This will help reduce carbon dioxide emissions, resulting in a minor positive effect in relation to **SA5: Air**.

6.64 Potential minor negative effects are identified in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA 18: Economic growth** as it is possible that delivering new housing and commercial development may be restricted in some instances due to the landscape-related requirements of the policy.

6.65 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation

6.66 Draft Policy 5 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** as the policy makes extensive provision for open space and play space. This includes safeguarding against the loss of public or private open spaces and requiring the delivery of new open space and play space, including accessible greenspace in residential developments in accordance with specified minimum standards. This will encourage physical activity, having a positive impact on mental and physical health.

6.67 Draft Policy 5 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion**, **SA13: Community** and **SA14: Services and Facilities** as developers will be required to make provision for open space and play space in accordance with the additional needs that the development generates taking account of current local standards of provision and accessibility, including the minimum provision, accessibility and dwelling thresholds set out in the policy. Furthermore, on-site provision is expected, with off-site provision or contributions towards provision where on-site provision is not achievable. The policy seeks to allow community use when developing

playing pitch or sports facilities for schools. This will ensure greater equal access to appropriate recreational, sports and leisure opportunities and facilities for new and existing residents.

6.68 The policy also recognises the role that open space plays in providing supplementary mitigation for the effects of recreational pressure on the Humber Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar, specifically supporting the design of natural green space which is attractive to walkers and dog walkers, particularly in areas where development is most likely to result in increasing visitors to the Humber Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar. The policy also includes criteria intended to avoid substantive local biodiversity loss and, where appropriate, encourages biodiversity enhancement through new open space and play space. As such, this will minimise the harm on designated sites. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**. Draft Policy 5 is also expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy states that where appropriate, development should enhance or otherwise accommodate the historic interest of open space sites, particularly where they contribute to the enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets. It also expects new or enhanced open spaces to be of sufficient quality and to contribute to and connect into the wider green infrastructure network. This will have a positive effect on the local landscape and the landscape character of an area.

6.69 A minor positive effect is also likely in relation to **SA9: Flooding** as the policy specifically encourages sustainable drainage to be incorporated into open space and play space where appropriate.

6.70 Minor positive effects are also expected in relation to **SA1: Climate change** and **SA15: Sustainable travel**. The policy requires open space and play space to incorporate natural features where appropriate and to contribute to and connect into the wider green infrastructure network, which will support climate adaptation and improve connections to green infrastructure. The requirement for open space and play space to achieve high standards of safety and natural surveillance will also help to reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA12: Crime**.

6.71 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives

Draft Policy 6: Biodiversity and geodiversity

6.72 Draft Policy 6 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** as the overarching purpose of the policy is to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity. The Council will have regard to enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity when considering development proposals and will seek to conserve and enhance international, national and local sites of biological and geological conservation importance. The policy also requires development to follow the mitigation hierarchy, retain and enhance habitats and species of importance, improve connectivity between components of the Borough's ecological network and support nature recovery and climate resilience. Development proposals will be expected to incorporate features which support wildlife, such as swift bricks, bat boxes and hedgehog highways, and safeguard land functionally linked to the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. Finally, the policy states that any development which would, either individually or cumulatively, result in significant harm to biodiversity which cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated or as a last resort compensated for, will be refused.

6.73 These policy requirements may impact the delivery of commercial and housing development, particularly where development would affect designated sites, irreplaceable habitats, ecological networks or functionally linked land. As such, potential minor negative effects are identified in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA18: Economic Growth**. However, these effects are uncertain as they would be dependent on the location and ecological sensitivity of the employment and housing sites.

6.74 A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA1: Climate change** as the Borough's ecological network should help to increase climate resilience which will support climate adaptation.

6.75 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 7: Habitat mitigation - South Humber Bank

6.76 Draft Policy 7 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** as the policy provides extensive provision for habitat mitigation through Strategic Mitigation Sites, specifically in relation to the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar site. The policy states that development proposals within the Mitigation Zone, which adversely affect the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar site due to the loss of functionally linked land, are required to make contributions towards the provision and management of these

mitigation sites. The Strategic Mitigation Sites will be safeguarded against development, and appropriate habitat will be delivered and managed on these sites in accordance with the North East Lincolnshire South Humber Gateway.

6.77 A minor positive effect is likely in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land** as the policy may encourage development on brownfield land over greenfield sites, given the requirement for contributions to be made towards the mitigation sites when development is proposed on greenfield land. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Design and Amenity

6.78 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments
- Draft Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport
- Draft Policy 10: Parking provision

6.79 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.6 and are described below the table.

Table 6.6: Summary of SA findings for the Design and Amenity Policies

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 11	Draft Policy 8	Draft Policy 9	Draft Policy 10
SA1: Climate Change	+	0	+	+/-?
SA2: Efficient use of land	+	0	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	+	++	0	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	+	0	0	+/-
SA5: Air	+	0	+	+/-?
SA6: Resources	+	0	0	0

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 11	Draft Policy 8	Draft Policy 9	Draft Policy 10
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	+	0	0	+
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	0	+	0
SA12: Crime	+	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	+	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	0	++	+/-
SA16: Housing	0	0	0	0
SA17: Landscape	++	++	0	+
SA18: Economic Growth	0	0	+	0
SA19: Education	0	0	0	0

Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments

6.80 Draft Strategic Policy 11 requires high quality sustainable design in all developments, with consideration given to the site's built and natural environment and social and physical characteristics, as well as local history, culture and heritage. A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to **SA17: Landscape**. Draft Strategic Policy 11 also requires development to protect and enhance natural assets, including through the Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and biodiversity net gain. It also requires resource efficiency; climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation; increased tree canopy coverage; air quality improvements; net zero by 2050; active habits and behaviour; connectivity and public transport uptake;

accessibility and social inclusion; residential amenity; and crime reduction. Further requirements relate to heritage assets and their settings; landscape and townscape; including having consideration for Landscape Character Assessments and the objectives of the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023. The use of high-quality materials, including Modern Methods of Construction and achieving energy-efficient and low-carbon development should inform development. The efficient use of land and the delivery of high quality public realm are expected to be an important part of development. The Policy will also incorporate elements of public art to enrich the wider area when the site is located in prominent locations or the site has significance in terms of local heritage. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA2: Efficient use of land, SA3: Cultural Heritage, SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, SA5: Air, SA6: Resources, SA10: Social inclusion, SA11: Health and Wellbeing, SA12: Crime and SA15: Sustainable Travel**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

6.81 Draft Policy 8 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy supports the protection and enhancement of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings. This will help sustain the distinctiveness and significance of North East Lincolnshire's historic, rural and coastal environment. The Policy seeks to update Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans, address Heritage at Risk, consider the use of Article 4 Directions, support the development of Listed Building Heritage Partnership Agreements, support heritage-led regeneration and consider the use of Local Listed Building Consent Orders. The Policy requires development proposal to protect the significance of heritage assets, enhance the historic landscape and townscape, preserve and enhance Conservation Areas and increase knowledge and access to local heritage assets. This includes enhancing the design, character appearance and historic significance of The Fitties and the Borough's only registered park and garden (Peoples Park, Grimsby). The Policy also seeks to preserve archaeological assets in situ wherever possible, or ensure that recovered information is effectively recorded and disseminated.

6.82 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport

6.83 Draft Policy 9 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel** as the purpose of the policy is to reduce congestion and support measures that encourage the use of sustainable transport choices. The policy's approach includes focusing development which generates significant movements in locations where the need to travel will be minimised; prioritising pedestrian and cycle access to and within the site; making appropriate provision for access to public transport; supporting and enhancing rail connections and infrastructure; requiring applications to adopt a vision-led approach that identifies transport interventions which will help achieve the desired place; ensuring that development has an acceptable impact on the transport network and making provision for electric vehicle charging. The policy also requires Transport Statements, Transport Assessments or Travel Plans to be submitted as part of a development proposal where appropriate to address individual and cumulative impacts. The policy will focus sustainable transport measures and highway improvements to Grimsby, Cleethorpes, the A16, the A180 corridor, urban area congestion hotspots and any defined air quality management areas. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA5: Air** as reducing reliance on the private car and lowering congestion levels will improve levels of pollution. A minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA1: Climate Change** as the policy will make provision for electric vehicle charging, car clubs and car sharing and support and enhance rail connections and infrastructure.

6.84 Draft Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** as the policy states that it will support measures that promote more sustainable transport choices to encourage more active and healthy lifestyles. Proposals are required to prioritise pedestrian and cycle access to and within a site promoting active travel choices, which will encourage greater physical activity.

6.85 Draft Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA14: Services and Facilities** as the policy identifies Grimsby town centre and Cleethorpes town and centre and resort area as priority areas where combinations of sustainable transport measure and highway improvements will be focused. This may encourage improved access to services and facilities located in more central locations. Draft Policy 9 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** as the policy seeks to make suitable provision to accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies, which may benefit local economic activity. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 10: Parking provision

6.86 Draft Policy 10 is expected to have mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effects in relation to **SA1: Climate Change**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA5: Air** as the policy seeks to ensure that streets and parking areas incorporate green infrastructure, including street trees and other appropriate landscaping, to soften the impact of car parking, and also help to improve air quality and contribute to biodiversity. The explicit inclusion of electric vehicle parking provision may also help support the transition towards lower-emission vehicles. However, as the policy seeks to ensure that development proposals have the appropriate vehicle and powered two wheeler parking provision, this policy may facilitate the ongoing use of private vehicles which could have an impact on emissions. A minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA17: Landscape** as the planting of street trees and other appropriate landscaping will enhance the visual impact of parking areas.

6.87 Draft Policy 10 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA10: Social Inclusion** as the policy seeks to ensure that where private and/or public on-site parking for public use is to be provided, at least 5% of parking bays should be designed, set out and reserved for people with mobility impairments. The policy further states that such parking bays should be located as close to the main access to the building as possible.

6.88 Draft Policy 10 is expected to have a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel** as the policy states that the form and scale of off-street parking required will be assessed against the accessibility and connectivity of the development to services, facilities and workplaces, and the availability and frequency of public transport services, which may prioritise public transport. Furthermore, the policy seeks to ensure that development proposals that generate additional parking demand should ensure that appropriate cycle parking provision is made. However, as the policy seeks to ensure that development proposals have the appropriate vehicle and powered two wheeler parking provision, this policy may encourage the use of private vehicles.

6.89 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Employment

6.90 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Policy 11: Employment allocations
- Draft Policy 12: Existing employment areas
- Draft Policy 13: Skills and training
- Draft Policy 14: Tourism and visitor economy

Draft Policy 11: Employment allocations

6.91 Table 6.7 below sets out the likely effects of the employment site allocations set out in Draft Policy 11 on the SA objectives. Site options were initially subject to SA in Chapter 5 and where the site boundaries are unchanged, the effects reported below are the same as those reported in Chapter 5 – this is because the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan largely does not include information about site-specific mitigation that will be provided. The only mitigation provided within the policy relates the requirement for development to satisfy the requirements of the Habitats Regulations. However, this mitigation does not alter any effects in relation to the SA objectives. If site boundaries have changed or site options have been combined to create a single allocation, the new site area has been appraised using the same approach as for the site options that were appraised in Chapter 5. The table provides an overall summary of the likely effects of the sites that are being allocated and together the effects represent an appraisal of the overarching Draft Policy 11.

6.92 The following allocations are included within Draft Policy 11 but as they are already under construction, they haven't been included in the below appraisal:

- ELR007: Land at Hall Park Way, Kiln Lane, Stallingborough
- ELR008D: Europac Phase 3
- ELR015A: Great Coates Business Park, Moody Lane, Grimsby
- ELR015B: Great Coates Business Park, Moody Lane, Grimsby
- ELR016A: Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)

Table 6.7: Likely sustainability effects of the preferred employment allocations

Preferred allocations	SA 1	SA 2	SA 3	SA4	SA 5	SA 6	SA 7	SA 8	SA 9	SA1 0	SA1 1	SA1 2	SA1 3	SA1 4	SA1 5	SA1 6	SA1 7	SA1 8	SA1 9
ELR001: Pelham Estate, Kings Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?
ELR008a: Europarc Phase 3	0	--	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	-	?	+	+?
ELR008b: Europarc Phase 3	0	--	-?	- ?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	+	++?
ELR008e: Europarc Phase 3	0	--	-?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	+	+?
ELR011: Europarc Phase 4	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	?	++	++?
ELR016b: Kiln Lane Expansion	0	--	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	+	+	+?

Preferred allocations	SA 1	SA 2	SA 3	SA4	SA 5	SA 6	SA 7	SA 8	SA 9	SA1 0	SA1 1	SA1 2	SA1 3	SA1 4	SA1 5	SA1 6	SA1 7	SA1 8	SA1 9
Site Stallingborough (The Helm)																			
ELR016c: Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	+	+	+?
ELR019: Abengoa Site, Hobson Way	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR020: Land east of Hobson Way, Stallingborough	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR021: Novartis Moody Lane	0	--	0?	--?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?

Preferred allocations	SA 1	SA 2	SA 3	SA4	SA 5	SA 6	SA 7	SA 8	SA 9	SA1 0	SA1 1	SA1 2	SA1 3	SA1 4	SA1 5	SA1 6	SA1 7	SA1 8	SA1 9
ELR022: Plot Q Kiln Lane	0	++	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	+?
ELR027: Land east of Queens Road, Immingham	0	++	0?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR037: Land r/o Marlin House, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+?
ELR041: Land west of Kings Road, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	+	++?
ELR042: Former Novartis factory site, Grimsby	0	++	0?	-- ?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR043: Mauxhall Farm, Stallingborou	0	--	-?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?

Preferred allocations	SA 1	SA 2	SA 3	SA4	SA 5	SA 6	SA 7	SA 8	SA 9	SA1 0	SA1 1	SA1 2	SA1 3	SA1 4	SA1 5	SA1 6	SA1 7	SA1 8	SA1 9
gh Road, Immingham																			
ELR044: Manby Road, Immingham	0	--?	--?	0?/++ ?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?

6.93 The likely effects of the other policies in the Employment section of the Local Plan relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.8 and are described below the table.

Table 6.8: Summary of SA findings for the Employment Policies

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 12	Draft Policy 13	Draft Policy 14
SA1: Climate Change	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	+	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	+
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	0	+
SA5: Air	0	0	-?
SA6: Resources	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	0	+
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0	+
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	0	0	-?
SA16: Housing	0	0	0
SA17: Landscape	0	0	+
SA18: Economic Growth	++	+	++

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 12	Draft Policy 13	Draft Policy 14
SA19: Education	0	++	0

Draft Policy 12: Existing employment areas

6.94 Draft Policy 12 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** as the policy seeks to safeguard existing employment areas for employment and business use, and promotes the development or reuse of vacant sites located within existing employments areas for employment use, which will encourage the development of vacant sites. For this reason, the policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**.

6.95 Safeguarding employment sites could restrict the potential for their use for other types of development such as housing; however the policy requirements indicate that redevelopment will be permitted if there is no prospect of commercial use of the site; therefore negative effects are not considered likely for that reason. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 13: Skills and training

6.96 Draft Policy 13 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA19: Education** as the policy seeks to support development proposals that relate directly to the development of local skills, and training opportunities. The policy also supports measures to secure local employment and training through new development. Encouragement and support will also be given to measures supporting in work training, development of adult skills as well as training for young people to secure employment. As such, a minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy

6.97 Draft Policy 14 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth** as the policy seeks to support development that contributes towards a year round all weather visitor economy, including safeguarding, supporting and enhancing the growth of existing and new visitor,

cultural, leisure attractions. This will include visitor accommodation that are appropriate to their location as well as promoting rural 'green tourism' facilities. The policy further seeks to safeguard and promote local distinctiveness and cultural diversity. This will have positive influence on the local economy, as well as benefitting local communities. As such, a minor positive effect is also expected in relation to **SA13: Community**.

6.98 Draft Policy 14 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** as the policy will support development that protects and enhances places of historic character and appearance. Draft Policy 14 is also expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy will support development that protects and enhances sites of biodiversity and geodiversity importance and maintains the integrity of the designated Humber Estuary sites and the Humber Estuary SSSI. The policy prioritises securing appropriate, effective and timely mitigation when necessary; including a commitment to further reviews and updates of the Cleethorpes Habitat Management Plan to manage increasing recreational pressures and access to sensitive areas. The policy also notes that when developing within the National Landscape, particular regard should be given to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Management Plan.

6.99 Draft Policy 14 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA8: Water** as the policy will support development that maintains the high water quality and attraction of Cleethorpes beach.

6.100 Draft Policy 14 is expected to have a minor negative effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel** as the policy will support development that enhances the provision of support facilities for visitors, including car parking, EV parking and signage provision. This will increase the capacity for cars in North East Lincolnshire and may subsequently encourage the use of private vehicles without active travel provision. This may in turn lead to higher associated emissions in North East Lincolnshire, and as such a minor negative effect is expected in relation to **SA5: Air**. Both of these effects are recorded as uncertain however, as at this stage the specific details of development proposals are unknown.

6.101 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Housing

6.102 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations
- Draft Policy 16: Development of strategic housing sites
- Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing
- Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions
- Draft Policy 18: Housing mix
- Draft Policy 19: Self-build and custom build housing
- Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers

Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations

6.103 Table 6.9 below sets out the likely effects of the residential site allocations, as set out in Draft Policy 15, on the SA objectives. Site options were initially subject to SA in Chapter 5 and where the site boundaries are unchanged, the effects reported below are the same as those reported in Chapter 5 – this is because the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan includes no site-specific mitigation within the policy. Draft Policy 15 requires that any proposals that result in the loss of sports pitches will be replaced by the Council to address any loss in these pitches. Therefore, the likely effects of sites HOU139, HOU154, HOU287A, HOU 342 and HOU373 have been upgraded from a mixed significant negative and minor or significant positive to mixed negligible and minor or significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and geodiversity** to take into account the mitigation within the policy.

6.104 The development of any of the allocated housing sites will be required to submit an assessment to understand the individual and cumulative importance of the site for SPA/Ramsar species. Where the assessment identifies the potential for adverse effects resulting from the off-site habitat loss and/or disturbance, appropriate and timely measures must be taken to mitigate such impacts. Such mitigation is likely to be in the form of alternative habitat managed specifically for the affected bird species and/or contributions towards the provision of strategic mitigation sites. Where required, appropriate, effective and timely mitigation will be secured to manage increasing recreational pressures on the Humber estuary designated sites. This includes a commitment to develop and review the Cleethorpes Habitat Management Plan. Given the mitigation within Draft Policy 15, the mixed effects against **SA4: Biodiversity and geodiversity** have been upgraded to mixed minor positive effect (were a

previous negligible effect existed) or negligible effect (where a previous minor negative effect existed) for all of the housing allocations.

6.105 If site boundaries have changed or sites have been combined to create a single allocation, the new site area has been apprised using the same approach as for the site options that were appraised in Chapter 5. The table provides an overall summary of the likely effects of the sites that are being allocated and together the effects represent an appraisal of the overarching Draft Policy 15.

6.106 The following allocations are included within Draft Policy 15 but as they are already under construction, they haven't been included in the below appraisal:

- HOU018: Land at Macaulay Lane ('West Marsh Renaissance'), Grimsby
- HOU002: Land west of Pilgrims Way, Immingham
- HOU006: Land to the east of Stallingborough Road, Immingham
- HOU010B: Land north of Grampian Avenue and west of Larkspur Avenue, Healing
- HOU021A: Land west of Great Coates (Church Farm)
- HOU034B: Land off Pelham Road, Cleethorpes
- HOU042: Site of former Clifton Bingo, Grant Street, Grimsby
- HOU044: Former Birds Eye site, Ladysmith Road, Grimsby
- HOU045: Land at former cricket field, Littlefield Lane
- HOU056B: Former Thrunscoe Centre, Highgate, Cleethorpes
- HOU074A: Land at Humberston Road (north of Weelsby Hall Farm (site HOU074B)), Grimsby
- HOU074C: Lane at Hewitts Circus (south east of Weelsby Hall Farm site (HOU074B)), Grimsby
- HOU075A: Land of Field Head Road and west of Charles Avenue, Laceby
- HOU076: Scartho Top, Grimsby
- HOU082: Land at South View adjacent to Coach House Public House, Humberston
- HOU092: Land to rear of 184 Humberston Avenue ('Keystone Development'), Humberston

- HOU095B: Land adjacent to 401 Louth Road, New Waltham
- HOU101B: Par 3, Scouts Lane, New Waltham
- HOU105: Land west of Louth Road, New Waltham
- HOU105A: Land west of Louth Road and south of Toll Bar School
- HOU105B: Land west of Louth Road and south of Toll Bar School
- HOU111: Land rear of Sandon House, Barnoldby Road and west of Brigsley Road, Waltham
- HOU112: Land north west of Bradley Road, Waltham
- HOU118: Central Parade, Freshney Green (former Yarborough Estate)
- HOU128: Land former Western School and to the rear of Grange Primary School, Grimsby
- HOU144: Land off College Street, Grimsby
- HOU147: Land at 184 Humberston Avenue, Humberston
- HOU150: Land to south Diana Princess of Wales Hospital, Grimsby
- HOU288: Land east of Grimsby Road and north of Station Road, Waltham
- HOU289: 25 Enfield Avenue, New Waltham
- HOU292: Land west of Bradley Road, Waltham
- HOU295: Land off Forest Way, Humberston
- HOU296: Land off Shaw Drive and Glebe Road, Grimsby
- HOU301: Trenchard Close, Immingham
- HOU303: 29-31 Chantry Lane
- HOU316: Former Leaking Boot, Grimsby Road and Suggitts Lane, Cleethorpes
- HOU356: Land south of Ings Lane, Waltham, Waltham
- HOU368D: Land east of Bradley Road (Grove Farm site 4), Waltham
- HOU376: Land adjacent to 156 Waltham Road, Grimsby
- HOU381: Bursar Primary School, corner Bursar Street and Bentley Street
- HOU382: Former Resource Centre, Margaret Street, Immingham
- HOU384: Anita Grove, Cheapside

- HOU387: Land at Buddleia Close, Healing
- HOU416: Willows Centre, Banmouth Drive, Grimsby

Table 6.9: Likely sustainability effects of the residential allocations

Preferred allocations	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU005: Land west of Stallingborough Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	+	+	+?
HOU061A: Weelsby Avenue Depot	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU063A: Land north of Wootton Road	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	++?
HOU064A: Burwell Drive/Winchester Road	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	0?	+	+?
HOU068B: Land off Butt Lane	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	+?
HOU074B: Land west of Humberston Road	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	++	++?
HOU084A: Land at Midfield Farm south of Sinderson Road and east of Cherry Close	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+
HOU104: Land at Louth Road	0	--	0?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	++?
HOU110: Land to the west of Cheapside	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+?
HOU129: Land to the west of Cheapside	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	-	++	0	+	-?
HOU139: Land to the north of Humberston Avenue	0	-	--?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	-	++	++?

Preferred allocations	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU141A: Former Matthew Humberston School Field	0	-	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU146A: Land rear of Humberston Avenue	0	--	0?	+?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	+	+?
HOU154: YMCA, Peakes Lane	0	++	--?	+?/0?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	-	+	++?
HOU180A: Land at Meadow Farm	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	-?
HOU190A: Land east of Ayscough Avenue and north of Healing Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	++	++	0	+	+?
HOU272A: Land east of Cartergate	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU287A: Land north of Woodland Way, (east of Grimsby Road)	0	--	-?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	+?
HOU294: Land adjacent to railway line, off Station Road	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	+?
HOU338: The Old Nurseries, Cheapside	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU340: Land south of 69 to 90 Humberston Avenue	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	-?
HOU342: Grimsby West Urban Extension	0	--	--?	0?/0?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	--	+	++?
HOU351: Land at Caistor Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	-?

Preferred allocations	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU351A: Land at Caistor Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	-?
HOU353: Lindsey Lower School Playing fields	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU354A: Duchess Street car park	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	-?
HOU355: Scartho Top Playing Field, Heimdal Road	0	-	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	+?
HOU373: Land of former tower blocks Washdyke Lane	0	++	--?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	?	++	++?
HOU374: Land off Waltham Road (adjoining Waltham Village)	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	-?
HOU375: 260 Macaulay Lane	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	-	++	+?
HOU380: Garth Lane (Alexander Docks)	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU386: R/t 73 to 105 Granville Street (Garages)	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	++	++?
HOU388: Eleanor House, 19 Eleanor Street	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU394: Habrough Road	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	++	--	+	+?

Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites

6.107 Draft Policy 16 sets out criteria relating to three strategic housing sites which are allocated in the Local Plan. These comprise the following site option references:

- SH1: Grimsby West (HOU342)
- SH2: Humberston Road, Grimsby (HOU074B)
- SH3: Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham (HOU005 and HOU394)

6.108 The appraisal findings for each of these land parcels, as reported in Chapter 5, have been reviewed to take into account the general requirements of Draft Policy 16 and the site-specific mitigation measures set out in the policy. For ease of reference, the 'policy off' appraisal findings for each site are shown in Table 6.10 below, along with the 'policy on' findings. The 'policy on' findings for the three strategic site allocations together can be taken to represent an appraisal of Draft Policy 16.

Table 6.10: SA findings for Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites

SA Objectives	HOU342 (policy-off)	SH1	HOU074B (policy-off)	SH2	HOU005 (policy-off)	HOU394 (policy-off)	SH3
SA1: Climate Change	0	+/-	0	+	0	0	+
SA2: Efficient use of land	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SA3: Cultural Heritage	--?	-?	--?	-?	--?	-?	-?
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	-?/--?	+/-?	-?/++?	+?	0?/++?	0?/++?	++?
SA5: Air	0	+/-	0	+	0	0	+
SA6: Resources	-?	0?	0	+	0	0	+
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA8: Water	-?	0?	-?	0?	-?	-?	0?
SA9: Flooding	--	-	--	-	--	--	-
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	+	++	+	++	+	++	++
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SA Objectives	HOU342 (policy-off)	SH1	HOU074B (policy-off)	SH2	HOU005 (policy-off)	HOU394 (policy-off)	SH3
SA13: Community	0	+	0	+	0	0	+
SA14: Services and Facilities	++	++	++	++	+	+	++
SA15: Sustainable Travel	++/-	++	0	+	0	++	++
SA16: Housing	++	++	++	++	++	++	++
SA17: Landscape	--	-	-	0	+	--	-
SA18: Economic Growth	+	+	++	++	+	+	+
SA19: Education	++?	++	++?	++	+?	+?	++

6.109 Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation for the strategic housing sites, requiring proposals to provide opportunities for renewable energy, including the provision of a renewable energy and digital strategy to explore the opportunities for site-wide renewable energy generation and distribution. The site-specific requirements for the strategic housing sites set out in SH1, SH2, and SH3 include the provision of extensive green and blue infrastructure, including the creation of the River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods, which will further support climate adaptation and nature-based solutions. Sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 are therefore all expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA1: Climate change**. However, the site-specific requirement for site SH1, supports the delivery of a complete highway link between the A46 and A1136, which could facilitate additional vehicle movements and associated greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the minor positive effect identified for site SH1 against SA1 is coupled with a minor negative effect.

6.110 The strategic housing sites allocated under Draft Policy 16 are expected to have uncertain significant negative effects in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land** as they are greenfield land and contain a significant proportion (>=25%) of Grade 3 land.

6.111 Strategic housing sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 are within close proximity to a Conservation Area and several listed buildings. Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation regarding the development of the strategic housing sites, requiring proposals to undertake a heritage impact assessment, which will identify heritage assets, assess their significance, and assess the impact of the development on their significance. The policy states that appropriate measures for mitigation and adding value to local heritage should be identified and set out in the assessment. The heritage assessment must also form the basis for approaches to the layout and design of development across the site. No additional requirements relating specifically to cultural heritage are included within the site-specific sections of Draft Policy 16. As such, an uncertain minor negative effect is expected for strategic housing sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA4: Cultural heritag**e.

6.112 Strategic housing sites SH1 and SH2 are within close proximity of a Local Wildlife Site. SH3 is not located in close proximity to a Local Wildlife Site. SH1 also contains an existing green infrastructure asset that could be lost as a result of development. SH2 and SH3 are located within 400m of existing green and blue infrastructure, providing opportunities to connect to or enhance these assets.

6.113 Draft Policy 16 requires that any proposals that result in the loss of sports pitches will be replaced by the Council to address any loss in these pitches. The policy also seeks to deliver development within a framework of green and blue infrastructure, that maximises linkage to the wider green and blue infrastructure network and enhances the ecological value of the site through the implementation of measures to secure at least 10% biodiversity net gain. The policy further seeks to minimise environmental impact safeguarding and enhancing biodiversity value, incorporating identified Local Wildlife Sites. The site-specific requirements for the strategic housing sites set out in SH1-Grimsby West, SH2-Humberston Road, Grimsby, and SH3-Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham include the provision of extensive green and blue infrastructure, including the creation of the River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods, and the creation of connected green and blue infrastructure networks linking the sites with the wider countryside. Therefore, site SH1is expected to have an uncertain mixed minor positive and minor negative policy-on effect, SH2 to have an uncertain minor positive policy-on effect, and SH3 to have an uncertain significant positive effect in relation to **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**.

6.114 Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation for the strategic housing sites, stating that development will be required to maximise accessibility to sustainable travel choices, promoting walking, cycling and public transport, and for development to address necessary improvements to the highway network, both on and off-site. The site-specific requirements for SH3 states the potential for a new bus link to the train station, which would support public transport accessibility and have beneficial effects on air quality by reducing the demand for the use of private vehicles. As such, strategic housing sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 are expected to have minor positive policy-on effects in relation to SA5: Air. The minor positive effect in relation to SH1 is coupled with a minor negative effect as the site-specific requirement for the site provides for the delivery of a complete highway link between the A46 and A1136. This could facilitate additional vehicle movements and associated air pollution.

6.115 Strategic housing site SH3 is located within a Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA). Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation for the development of the strategic housing sites, stipulating that proposals should provide opportunities for renewable energy, including the provision of a renewable energy and digital strategy to explore the opportunities for site-wide renewable energy generation and distribution. The policy also requires development to deliver green and blue infrastructure that maximises linkage to the wider green and blue infrastructure network. This could help to support water supply by providing opportunities for natural water storage and infiltration. The site-specific requirements for

extensive green and blue infrastructure networks, including the creation of the River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods, could also provide additional opportunities for water storage, infiltration and natural water management. Therefore, an uncertain negligible effect is expected for SH1 in relation to **SA6: Resources**, and a minor positive effect is expected for SH2 and SH3.

6.116 The strategic housing sites fall within Source Protection Zone 2. Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation for the development of the strategic housing sites, requiring development to deliver green and blue infrastructure that maximises linkages to the wider green and blue infrastructure network. This could help to support water supply by providing opportunities for natural water storage and infiltration. The site-specific requirements set out under SH1-Grimsby West, SH2-Humberston Road, Grimsby, and SH3-Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham, for extensive green and blue infrastructure networks, including the creation of the River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods, could also help to provide opportunities for water storage, infiltration and natural water management. As such, an uncertain negligible effects is expected for SH1, SH2 and SH3 against **SA8: Water**.

6.117 The strategic housing sites fall within a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding and/or are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 3. Draft Policy 16 sets out general requirements for the development of strategic housing sites to deliver foul and surface water drainage infrastructure in a way that integrates with green and blue infrastructure provision. The site-specific requirements for the strategic housing sites set out in SH1-Grimsby West, SH2-Humberston Road, Grimsby, and SH3-Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham also include the provision of extensive green and blue infrastructure, including the creation of the River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods. These measures will help to reduce the risk of surface water and fluvial flooding associated with new development. Therefore, a minor negative policy-on effect is expected for sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA9: Flooding**.

6.118 Strategic housing sites SH1, SH2 and SH3 are within 720m of a healthcare facility, an area of open space and at least a footpath or a cycle path. Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation in relation to the strategic housing sites, stating that the phased development of the strategic sites should incorporate open space, play and recreation provision, specifically the provision of equipped play areas, allotments, provision and sports fields. The site-specific requirements for the strategic housing sites set out in SH1-Grimsby West, SH2-

Humberston Road, Grimsby, and SH3-Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham identify substantial provision across the three sites, including NEAPs, LEAPs and LAPs distributed to meet accessibility needs, allotments, sports fields and supporting infrastructure, together with the proposed River Freshney Country Park and expansion of Weelsby Woods. This will encourage access to recreational spaces and improve the condition of parks and open spaces, enhancing physical and mental wellbeing in North East Lincolnshire. As such, a significant positive effect is expected for SH2 and SH3, and a significant positive effect for SH1 is expected in relation to **SA11: Health and wellbeing**.

6.119 Draft Policy 16 sets general requirements for the development of the strategic sites to deliver balanced sustainable communities, with a priority to create safe and welcoming places which promote a strong sense of community. Local infrastructure requirements for the new community also include the provision of facilities and services (schools, community facilities, local centres, play and playing pitch provision, and healthcare). The site-specific requirements for SH1 require the provision of social infrastructure including community facilities, convenience store and other facilities compatible with a local centre; focused in two hubs, a central hub, and a southern hub, with strong connections to the wider development area. Additionally, the site-specific requirements for SH2 and SH3 require social infrastructure compatible with a local centre; focused in a central hub with strong connections to the wider development area. As such, a minor positive effect is expected for SH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA13: Community**.

6.120 Strategic housing sites SH1 and SH2 are located at Grimsby and are therefore expected to have the best access to areas for recreation and healthcare facilities. Strategic housing site SH3 is located at Immingham, therefore are within 720m of the built-up area of a Local Service Centre. Draft Policy 16 sets out general criteria that will apply to the development of the strategic housing sites. The policy states that development will be expected to ensure that local infrastructure requirements for the new community are met through provision of facilities and services (schools, community facilities, local centres, play and playing pitch provision, and healthcare) in a planned and phased manner. The site-specific requirements for SH1 require the provision of social infrastructure including, community facilities, convenience store and other facilities compatible with a local centre; focused in two hubs, a central hub, and a southern hub, with strong connections to the wider development area. Additionally, the site-specific requirements for SH2 and SH3 require social infrastructure compatible with a local centre; focused in a central hub with strong connections to the wider development area. As such, a significant

positive effect is expected for HSH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA14: Services and facilities**.

6.121 Draft Policy 16 seeks to maximise accessibility to sustainable travel choices, promoting walking, cycling and public transports, and seeks to ensure that development addresses necessary improvements to the highway network, both on and off-site. The site-specific requirements for sites SH3 support a potential new bus link between the sites and the train station, which will help to encourage sustainable and active alternatives to motorised vehicles. As such, the significant positive effect is expected for Site SH3 in relation to **SA15: Sustainable travel**. However, for site SH1 this significant positive effect is coupled with a minor negative effect as the site-specific requirement provides for the delivery of a complete highway link between the A46 and A1136. This could facilitate additional vehicle movements. A minor positive effect is expected for SH2 in relation to SA15.

6.122 Draft Policy 16 sets out criteria that will apply to the development of the strategic housing sites, requiring the provision of a range of housing types, sizes and tenures, including general market, affordable housing and housing for the young and elderly. Other criteria included in the policy include requirements for development to take account of approved design guides or other mechanisms to ensure high quality and locally distinctive design. These requirements will combine to ensure that strategic sites are developed to a high standard, lifting the overall quality of the borough's housing stock. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected for SH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA16: Housing**.

6.123 Strategic housing sites HOU342 and HOU394 are located within areas that have been assessed as having low capacity to accommodate development and therefore receive significant negative policy-off effects in relation to **SA17: Landscape**. Strategic housing site HOU074B is located within an area assessed as having medium-low capacity to accommodate development and is therefore expected to have a minor negative policy-off effect against SA17, while site HOU005 is expected to have a minor positive policy-off effect in relation to SA17 as it located in an area that have been assessed as having high-medium capacity to accommodate development.

6.124 Draft Policy 16 requires development of the strategic housing sites to create high standards of design that create a specific sense of place which relates well to adjoining areas, recognising and safeguarding important views and connections. The policy also seeks to ensure that development takes account of approved design guides, or other mechanisms to ensure high quality

and locally distinctive design. Further to this, the policy requires the development of a design guide and delivery of high-quality design in accordance with the approved guide. The site-specific requirements for site SH1include proposals for the softening of the western and northern boundaries of the site to avoid the urbanising impact on the wider countryside, including the protection of Laceby Beck North LWS and Laceby Carr Plantation LWS, avoiding coalescence and marking a transition between the village of Healing and the development site. The site-specific requirements for sites SH2 and SH3 include the softening of the northern and western boundaries of the sites to avoid an urbanising impact on the wider countryside. These requirements will help to ensure that the strategic housing sites respectively create high standards of design that create a specific sense of place which relates well to adjoining areas, recognising and safeguarding important views and connections. Therefore, the score for site SH1 is minor negative effect and SH2 is expected to have a negligible effect in relation to **SA17: Landscape**. A mixed minor negative and significant positive effect is expected in relation to SA17 due to the mix of landscape sensitivities on the site.

6.125 Strategic housing site SH2 is located within 600m of public transport links as well as one or more major employment site and therefore receives a significant positive effect in relation to **SA18: Economic Growth**. Strategic housing sites SH1 and SH3 are located within 600m of either public transport links or one or more major employment sites and therefore receive a minor positive effect against the SA objective.

6.126 Strategic housing site SH1 is located within 600m of at least two of either a pre-school, a primary school, a secondary school or a college. Strategic housing site SH3 are located within 600m of either a primary or secondary school or college and therefore are expected to have uncertain minor positive effects against SA19. Draft Policy 16 sets general requirements for the development of the strategic housing sites, stating that the development of the sites will be required to deliver education facilities. The site-specific requirements for sites SH2 and SH3 require the provision of education contributions (on and off-site delivery), specifically primary, secondary and SEN, in accordance with an education strategy. Whereas, Site SH1 is already located near a primary and secondary school. These requirements are expected to result in a significant positive effect for SH1, SH2 and SH3 in relation to **SA19: Education**.

6.127 Negligible effects are expected for the remaining SA objectives.

6.128 The likely effects of the remaining housing policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.11 and are described below the table.

Table 6.11: Summary of SA findings for Housing Policies

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 12	Draft Policy 17	Draft Policy 18	Draft Policy 19	Draft Policy 20
SA1: Climate Change	0	0	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	+	0	+	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	+	0	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	0	0	0	0
SA5: Air	0	0	0	0	0
SA6: Resources	0	0	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0	0	+
SA8: Water	0	0	0	0	+
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0	0	+
SA10: Social inclusion	++	+	++	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	0	+	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	+	0	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	+	0	+
SA15: Sustainable Travel	0	0	+	0	0
SA16: Housing	++	+	++	++	++
SA17: Landscape	0	+	+	0	+
SA18: Economic Growth	0	0	0	0	0

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 12	Draft Policy 17	Draft Policy 18	Draft Policy 19	Draft Policy 20
SA19: Education	0	0	0	0	0

Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing

6.129 Draft Strategic Policy 12 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA10: Social inclusion** as the policy seeks to address the need for affordable housing in North East Lincolnshire. This policy will address the needs of disadvantaged groups, reduce levels of deprivation and promote greater social inclusion. In high market zones, 20% of housing on greenfield land should be affordable and 15% on brownfield sites. This should encourage the use of brownfield sites, meaning that a minor positive effect is likely in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions

6.130 Draft Policy 17 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA16: Housing**, **SA10: Social inclusion** and **SA13: Community** as the policy sets out the circumstances within which the development of a mix of affordable housing will be permitted within rural areas. This includes when there are secure arrangements to ensure that all the affordable homes will be occupied by local people in need of affordable homes, and that the benefits of the low cost provision will remain affordable to local people in perpetuity. This will have a minor effect on improving the availability of lower cost housing that is available to those who need which could have a positive impact on levels of deprivation within rural areas.

6.131 A minor positive effect is likely in relation to **SA17: Landscape** because the policy requires proposals for rural exceptions sites to be located within or close to the development boundary and to be of a scale and is in keeping with the form and character of the settlement.

6.132 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 18: Housing mix

6.133 Draft Policy 18 requires developments to provide a mix of housing tenures, types and sizes while establishing sustainable communities. This includes specialist homes designed for older people and other people with specific needs. The policy requires 30% of all new dwellings to meet M4(2) accessibility standards, subject to site suitability, while major developments must provide a proportion of M4(3) wheelchair-accessible homes. These requirements will increase the provision of accessible and adaptable homes, helping older residents and residents with specific needs to live as independently as possible. These homes are required to be built to Lifetime Standards. The policy also supports the development of empty or derelict properties. Developments are to be designed that allows older residents or residents with special needs to live as independently as possible. Therefore, the policy is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA16: Housing** and **SA10: Social inclusion**. On strategic sites, where a range of community facilities is delivered, consideration should be given to providing for the specific housing needs of elderly people, including extra-care and supported homes. In addition, the ability of future residents to access essential services, including public transport, shops and open spaces, will be considered when assessing the suitability of sites and proposals for homes addressing specific needs, residential care homes, extra care housing and continuing care retirement communities. This will improve access to essential services, sustainable transport and open spaces, while avoiding concentrations of specialist provision. As such, minor positive effects are also expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**, **SA14: Services and Facilities**, and **SA15: Sustainable Travel** .

6.134 Draft Policy 18 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land** as the policy states that support will be given to developers seeking to improve or redevelop empty or derelict properties to provide new housing. Housing density will also be considered and addressed on a site-by- site basis to ensure that sites are developed efficiently. Minor positive effects are also expected for **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape** as Draft Policy 18 requires development to respect local character and context which could have a positive impact on the built environment.

6.135 Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 19: Self-build and custom build housing

6.136 Draft Policy 19 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA16: Housing** as supporting the development of custom and self-build housing will support the development of a mix of types and tenures of properties, addressing housing needs. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers

6.137 Draft Policy 20 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA16: Housing** as the policy sets out criteria that will apply to development proposals for gypsy and traveller pitches. The policy will help ensure the high quality of accommodation for gypsies, travellers and travelling show-people. Development is required to be sensitive to the character and appearance of the landscape and the amenity of neighbouring properties; therefore a minor positive effect is expected for **SA17: Landscape**. The policy requires consideration to be given to access to local services and enmities and the availability of essential infrastructure, which includes water, power, sewerage, drainage and waste disposal. The policy also requires development not to be in areas of flood risk. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected for **SA7: Waste**, **SA8: Water**, **SA9: Flooding** and **SA14: Services and Facilities**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Town Centres, Social and Cultural Places

6.138 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy
- Draft Policy 21: Town centres uses
- Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places

6.139 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.12 and are described below the table.

Table 6.12: Summary of SA findings for the Town Centres, Social and Cultural Places policies

SA Objectives	Draft Strategic Policy 13	Draft Policy 21	Draft Policy 22
SA1: Climate Change	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	0
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	+	+
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	0	0
SA5: Air	0	0	0
SA6: Resources	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	0	0	0
SA8: Water	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	++
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	+	+
SA12: Crime	0	0	0
SA13: Community	+	++	++
SA14: Services and Facilities	++	++	++
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	+	0
SA16: Housing	+	0	0
SA17: Landscape	0	+	0
SA18: Economic Growth	++	++	0
SA19: Education	0	+	0

Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy

6.140 Draft Strategic Policy 13 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA14: Services and Facilities** and **SA18: Economic Growth** as the policy supports the enhancement of the role of centres within North East Lincolnshire. This includes supporting development which extends the range and quality of facilities and services offered, including retail, leisure, community, residential where appropriate, and other main town centre uses, to support the viability and vitality of centres. This will have beneficial impacts on the local economy whilst increasing job opportunities within these centres. The policy also requires a retail impact assessment to demonstrate that development will not impact upon the vitality and viability of any town centres or existing trading levels within the wider retail catchment. As the policy supports residential development within a sub-regional centre, a minor positive effect is expected in relation to **SA16: Housing**.

6.141 Draft Strategic Policy 13 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA13: Community** as the policy seeks to improve centres and enhance and broaden the leisure and cultural opportunities that are available. Draft Strategic Policy 19 is also expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA15: Sustainable Travel** as the policy states that proposals for main town centre uses will only be acceptable if it is demonstrated that the proposed site is accessible and well-connected to the town centre. The policy also supports the provision of day-to-day services and top-up convenience retailing within local centres and walkable catchments. Together, these provisions will improve access to services and facilities and reduce the need to travel elsewhere by private car to reach certain amenities. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses

6.142 Draft Policy 21 is expected to have significant positive effects in relation to **SA13: Community**, **SA14: Services and Facilities** and **SA18: Economic Growth** as the policy supports mixed use development that will add to the vitality and viability of a town centre. This includes extending the range and quality of facilities and services offered while extending the daytime and evening economy. The policy also states that commercial, business and service are considered acceptable uses within town centres and supports the provision of office accommodation within town centres. This will have beneficial impacts on the local economy whilst increasing employment provision in the Borough. The acceptable town centre uses also includes learning institutions, nurseries,

leisure facilities, clinics and health centres. This will enhance accessible educational and health provision while providing places for recreation resulting in a positive impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing. Therefore, minor positive effects are expected in relation to **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** and **SA19: Education**.

6.143 A minor positive effect is expected for **SA15: Sustainable transport** as the policy focuses town centre uses in the most accessible areas, where sustainable transport links are best.

6.144 Draft Policy 21 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy sets requirements for development within town centres to maintain and sustain the quality of historic environment and have regard to the desirability of retaining and improving traditional shop fronts and careful design consistent with conservation area appraisals. Additionally, the policy will help maintain active frontages within town centres which will have a positive impact on the character and look of the centre. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places

6.145 Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places is expected to have significant positive effects on **SA10: Social inclusion**, **SA13: Community** and **SA14: Services and Facilities**. The policy seeks to promote access to cultural facilities, as well as supporting the development of new social and cultural facilities. This will enhance existing facilities and local cultural provision. A minor positive effect is also expected on **SA3: Cultural heritage**, as the policy supports the redevelopment of cultural value where there is evidence that these buildings are no longer valued as cultural assets. This will ensure the protection of buildings that have cultural significance from development. A minor positive effect is expected on **SA11: Health and Wellbeing** as there are also links between access to cultural and creative activities and improvements to the health and wellbeing of communities, particularly in relation to mental health. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Providing for Minerals

6.146 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Policy 23: Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure

- Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and Secondary Aggregates
- Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (minerals)

6.147 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.13 and described below the table.

Table 6.13: Summary of SA findings for the Providing for Minerals policies

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 23	Draft Policy 24	Draft Policy 25
SA1: Climate Change	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	+
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	+/-	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	+/-	+
SA5: Air	0	+	0
SA6: Resources	++	++/-	+
SA7: Waste	0	+	0
SA8: Water	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	+	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	0	0	0
SA16: Housing	0	0	0
SA17: Landscape	0	+	+

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 23	Draft Policy 24	Draft Policy 25
SA18: Economic Growth	0	+	0
SA19: Education	0	0	0

Draft Policy 23: Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure

6.148 Draft Policy 23 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA6: Resources** as the policy safeguards mineral deposits of sand and gravel and blown sand (silica sand) within the identified Minerals Safeguarding Areas as well as existing and planning infrastructure that support the supply of minerals. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and Secondary Aggregates

6.149 Draft Policy 24 is expected to have a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect in relation to **SA6: Resources** as the policy will work to maintain an appropriate contribution towards the regional supply of aggregates and the maintenance of appropriate landbanks. However, the policy also supports the extraction of natural resources, thus having a negative effect on available resources. A minor positive effect is likely in relation to **SA18: Economic growth**, as maintaining a supply of aggregates across the Humber area will benefit the economy.

6.150 Draft Policy 24 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA17: Landscape** as the policy states that proposed development located within or affecting the character and setting of the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape will be granted planning permission only in exceptional circumstances, including where there is proven public interest in developing the site, the Humber area need cannot be served through development of alternative sites, and the impact on the intrinsic qualities of the National Landscape can be satisfactorily addressed. The policy also requires the effects of mineral extraction and transportation of minerals on landscape character to be considered.

6.151 Draft Policy 24 is expected to have a minor positive effect in relation to **SA7: Waste** as the policy states that the Council will support developments that

can contribute to secondary aggregate supplies through the processing of Construction Demolition and Excavation (CD&E) waste.

6.152 Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage** and **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**. The extraction of minerals could result in negative impacts on habitats, wildlife and heritage assets, including buried heritage. However, the policy requires these matters to be considered when determining mineral extraction proposals, which should help to avoid or mitigate adverse effects. The overall effects remain uncertain until the exact sites and proposals are known.

6.153 The policy requires consideration to be given to the potential impacts of minerals transportation, including in relation to noise and amenity. Minor positive effects are therefore identified in relation to **SA5: Air** and **SA11: Health and wellbeing**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (minerals)

6.154 Draft Policy 25 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**, **SA6: Resources** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy seeks to ensure that land is restored to a high quality, reflecting priorities identified in the latest Greater Lincolnshire Nature Recovery Strategy, and replenishing soils. This includes achieving the landscape and landform objectives for the site and the contribution to other multi-functional environmental gains consistent with local landscape character, informed by the latest Landscape Character Assessment. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Providing for Waste

6.155 This section presents the appraisals of the following North East Lincolnshire Plan policies:

- Draft Policy 26: Waste facility requirements
- Draft Strategic Policy 14: Safeguarding waste facilities and related infrastructure
- Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (waste)

6.156 The likely effects of the policies in relation to each SA objective are shown in Table 6.14 and described below the table.

Table 6.14: Summary of SA findings for the Providing for Waste policies

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 26	Draft Strategic Policy 14	Draft Policy 27
SA1: Climate Change	0	0	0
SA2: Efficient use of land	0	0	+
SA3: Cultural Heritage	0	0	0
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	0	0	+
SA5: Air	0	0	0
SA6: Resources	0	0	0
SA7: Waste	++	++	0
SA8: Water	0	0	0
SA9: Flooding	0	0	0
SA10: Social inclusion	0	0	0
SA11: Health and Wellbeing	0	0	0
SA12: Crime	0	0	0
SA13: Community	0	0	0
SA14: Services and Facilities	0	0	0
SA15: Sustainable Travel	+	0	0
SA16: Housing	0	0	0
SA17: Landscape	0	0	+
SA18: Economic Growth	0	0	0

SA Objectives	Draft Policy 26	Draft Strategic Policy 14	Draft Policy 27
SA19: Education	0	0	0

Draft Policy 26: Waste facility requirements

6.157 Draft Policy 26 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA7: Waste** as the policy identifies land at Great Coates Business Park, Moody Lane, Grimsby and Land east of Queens Road for the development of waste management facilities within North East Lincolnshire. This will maximise the recovery of waste and ensure it is managed appropriately. The development of waste facilities could have a negative impact on the natural and built environment while resulting in an increase in pollution. However, Draft Policy 26 sets out locational criteria, requiring development to be located, designed and operated to minimise impacts on visual intrusion, landscape character, noise, light and vibration, odours, air emissions, including dust, vermin and birds, litter, traffic and access, potential land use conflict, stability of land, protection of water quality and resources and flood risk management, conserving the historic environment and nature conservation. As such, negligible effects are expected in relation to **SA3: Cultural Heritage**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity**, **SA5: Air**, **SA8: Water**, **SA9: Flooding** and **SA11: Health and Wellbeing**. The co-location of complementary waste facilities could reduce the need to travel, resulting in minor positive effect in regard to **SA15: Sustainable transport**. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives. Land at Great Coates Business Park, Moody Lane, Grimsby (ELR015 a&b) and Land east of Queens Road (ELR027) have been appraised as employment site options. The appraisal of these sites is included in **Chapter 5**.

Draft Strategic Policy 14: Safeguarding waste facilities and related infrastructure

6.158 Draft Strategic Policy 14 is expected to have a significant positive effect in relation to **SA7: Waste** as the policy protects existing waste management facilities in North East Lincolnshire. This includes safeguarding existing waste management facilities from the encroachment of incompatible development. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (waste)

6.159 Draft Policy 27 is expected to have minor positive effects in relation to **SA2: Efficient use of land**, **SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity** and **SA17: Landscape** as the policy seeks to ensure that land is restored at the earliest opportunity, and to a high quality recognising key biodiversity objectives. Additionally, the restoration and replacement of soils will have a positive impact on maximising the use of the site. This includes achieving the landscape and landform objectives for the site and the contribution to other multi-functional environmental gains consistent with local landscape character, informed by the latest Landscape Character Assessment. A negligible effect is expected in relation to **SA7: Waste** as the policy sets out criteria for subsequent restoration and aftercare of waste related development but does not itself deliver waste management facilities. Negligible effects are expected against the remaining SA objectives.

Recommendations

6.160 A number of recommendations were made in a draft version of the SA Report to accompany Regulation 18 stage and provided to the Council. Those recommendations are listed below along with information about how the Council responded to these recommendations in the final version of the Regulation 18 consultation document.

Draft Strategic Policy 4: Infrastructure

Recommendation made

- Reference could be included to refer to phasing of infrastructure within the policy.

Council's Response

- Phasing of Infrastructure is usually linked to the granting of consent for development, in the cases where this is not the case infrastructure is linked to strategies or programmes set by other agencies.

Draft Strategic Policy 9: Developing a green infrastructure network

Recommendation made

- Reference could be included to refer to walking as a form of transport alongside recreational walking.

Council's Response

- Policy 9 is not restricted to recreational disturbance. This term is used in reference to recreational disturbance. Policy 15 also recognises walking as a form of transport.

Draft Strategic Policy 16: Tourism and Visitor economy

Recommendation made

- The policy could make reference to enhancing EV parking in bullet point D when it refers to enhancing the provision of support facilities.

Council's Response

- Reference to EV parking has been added to bullet D of Draft Strategic Policy 16.

Draft Policy 12: Future mineral extraction and Secondary Aggregates

Recommendation made

- Reference could be included to ensure there is no unacceptable impacts on protected habitats and designated heritage assets.

Council's Response

- Protected habitats and designated heritage assets are referenced in other policies in the Draft Local Plan. Therefore, is the Council does not consider it necessary to repeat in this policy.

Draft Strategic Policy 7: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure

Recommendation made

- The policy could ensure no unacceptable impact on protected habitats.

Council's Response

- Criteria C of this policy provides appropriate protection ".…….biodiversity, geodiversity and nature conservation, with regard given to the findings of the site and project specific HRA and potential impacts on SPA birds, where appropriate".

Draft Strategic Policy 4: Infrastructure

Recommendation made

- When providing criteria for telecommunications development, the policy could ensure that proposals for telecommunication should not have an unacceptable impact on the setting and scenic beauty of the National Landscape.

Council's Response

- Text has been added to Draft Strategic Policy 4 para 3A relating to specific regard to the setting and scenic beauty of the AONB. In addition, Telecoms development would still need to accord with Draft Policy 10: Landscape which provides consideration of development within the AONB.

Draft Policy 4: Parking

Recommendation made

- The policy could refer to the provision of EV parking and support car share schemes.

Council's Response

- The provision of EV facilities is now a requirement of Building Regulations. The support of car share schemes is not referenced in the Local Transport Plan but may be supported in specific cases.

6.161 Further recommendations have been made in the draft version of this SA Report and provided to the Council. Those recommendations are listed below along with information about how the Council has responded to these recommendations.

Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments

Recommendation made

- The policy could require flood measures such as sustainable drainage and nature based solutions.

Council's response

- The requirement to consider the use of sustainable drainage and nature based solutions is included in both Draft Strategic Policy 8 and Draft Policy 1. It is not considered necessary to repeat this.

Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living

Recommendation made

- The policy could support low carbon and energy efficient economic development as well as housing development.

Council's response

- Draft Policy 2 does not make a distinction between economic and housing development. The principles of the policy should be applied all types of development. The policy makes reference to both minor and major developments, with clause 3 referencing 'existing buildings'. It is acknowledged that the header "Energy and low carbon living" could be altered to clarify this further.

Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations

Recommendation made

- The policy could include mitigation in relation to cultural heritage and minimising any impacts on historic assets and their setting.

Council's response

- The impact on historic assets is covered in detail in Draft Policy 8

Draft Policy 14: Tourism and the visitor economy

Recommendation made

- The policy could support enhancement of active travel or improvement to public transport to support facilities for visitors and reduce the need to use the private car.

Council's response

- Active travel and public transport facilities are covered extensively in Draft Policy 9, which seeks to promote sustainable transport in all types of development.

Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates

Recommendation made

- The policy could ensure no adverse impacts on residential and public amenity as a result of extraction and transportation of minerals.

Council's response

- Clause 2 of the policy sets out a range of potential impacts on amenity that must be considered in relation to the extraction and transportation of minerals (A.i to A.xiii).

Chapter 7
Cumulative effects

7.1 The cumulative effects assessment in this chapter considers the total effects of the policies and site allocations in the Pre-submission Draft Local Plan taken as a whole on each of the SA objectives. A summary of the likely cumulative effects on each SA objective is presented in Table 7.1 below and described below the table.

Table 7.1: Summary of Cumulative Effects of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan

SA Objectives	Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan
SA1: Climate Change	+/-
SA2: Efficient use of land	+/-
SA3: Cultural Heritage	+/-
SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	++/-
SA5: Air	+/-
SA6: Resources	++/-
SA7: Waste	+/-
SA8: Water	+
SA9: Flooding	+/-
SA10: Social inclusion	+
SA11: Health and wellbeing	+
SA12: Crime	+
SA13: Community	+
SA14: Services and Facilities	++
SA15: Sustainable travel	+/-
SA16: Housing	++

SA Objectives	Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan
SA17: Landscape	++/-
SA18: Economic Growth	++
SA19: Education	+

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

7.2 The effects of human activities on the climate are irreversible on the timescale of humans alive today, although every little bit of avoided future temperature increase results in less warming. There are regulations in place that seek to reduce emissions, namely the amended Building Regulations 2010 and Future Building Standard from 2025 that require CO2 emissions from new build homes and other buildings, including offices and shops, to be 30% lower than current standards. Alongside this, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan includes a number of ambitious and aspirational policies seeking to mitigate climate change, particularly in the Climate Change, Flooding and Energy section, reflecting the overarching strategic objectives. Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk will specifically mitigate the effect of climate change in relation to aiming to minimise flood risk. Draft Policy 1: Water Management supports the efficient use of water and requirements for sustainable water supplies. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure seeks to maximise renewable energy generation capacity within North East Lincolnshire and the amount of energy drawn from district heath networks. The policy also supports the co-location of energy and heat generators and users to take advantage of surplus heat and energy, particularly through small-scale and community-led projects. Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living promotes the principles of the ‘energy hierarchy’ to achieve energy efficient and low carbon development. These policies will all support North East Lincolnshire’s aim to achieve net zero for the Council by 2030 and as a whole by 2050. Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement hierarchy will direct development towards the most sustainable locations at the top of the settlement hierarchy, which benefit from the greatest accessibility to services and public transport links, thereby reducing congestion and pollution.

7.3 A number of other policies also set out specific ways in which development will be required to facilitate and encourage modal shift, which will reduce transport-related emissions and mitigate the potential increases associated with the level of growth proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. However, the scale of growth that is proposed to be delivered in North East Lincolnshire will inevitably result in increased carbon emissions from buildings, commercial activities and road traffic, despite the mitigation that is built into the Plan through relevant policies. These include Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing, Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments, Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport and Draft Policy 16: Development of strategic housing sites. Furthermore, a number of policies within the Natural Environment section support flood alleviation and climate change mitigation through green infrastructure and biodiversity enhancements. These include: Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network and Draft Policy 4: Landscape.

7.4 All residential and employment site allocations are considered to have negligible effects on this SA objective as the effects of new development will depend largely on the detailed design proposals for each site, rather than by the location of sites. No site-specific mitigation is provided in relation to the housing and employment site allocations within Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations. Draft Policy 16 provides general mitigation for the strategic housing sites, requiring proposals to provide opportunities for renewable energy. This could result in positive effects in relation to the strategic site allocations (SH1, SH2 and SH3) in relation to SA1.

7.5 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA1: Climate change.

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

7.6 Strategic Objective 6 of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan encourages the use of brownfield which is considered an efficient use of land and likely to minimise the amount of best and most versatile agricultural land lost from development.

7.7 A number of policies within the Spatial Strategy section, including Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy and Draft Strategic Policy 5:

Development boundaries, are expected to have a positive effect on this SA Objective. Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy prioritises development at Grimsby and Cleethorpes which could offer opportunities for the development of brownfield land. Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries requires development to have regard to the quality of agricultural land to be developed. Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure will consider the land, including land stability, contamination, soils resources and loss of agricultural land in light of development proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generating systems. The policy also requires proposals for ground-based utility and commercial scale solar development to avoid Grade 1 or 2 agricultural land and, in specified circumstances involving Grade 3a land, to justify the proposed location and assess individual and cumulative impacts on the supply of best and most versatile agricultural land. Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments requires all developments to give consideration to the efficient use of land. In relation to employment development, Draft Policy 12: Existing Employment Areas promotes the development or reuse of vacant sites located within existing employment areas. On the residential development side, Draft Policy 18: Housing mix supports developers who seek to improve or redevelop empty or derelict properties to provide new housing.

7.8 A number of policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan aim to improve the countryside and land that is considered greenfield while also protecting these areas from development. This has the potential to encourage the use of brownfield land and reduce the level of greenfield land lost to development. This includes Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network, Draft Policy 7: Habitat mitigation - South Humber Bank, Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (Minerals) and Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (Waste).

7.9 However, whilst there will be some development on brownfield land there will likely be areas of greenfield land which could include high quality agricultural land lost to development.

7.10 Most of the residential and employment site allocations are predominantly greenfield sites and are located on best and most versatile agricultural land, with likely adverse effects on this objective. However, there is also a high number of site allocations that comprise of brownfield land and their redevelopment would represent an efficient use of previously developed land.

7.11 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA2: Efficient use of Land.

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

7.12 Housing and employment development proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could have negative effects on the cultural heritage of North East Lincolnshire, for example by impacting upon the setting of heritage assets such as the 231 nationally listed buildings, one registered Park and Garden, 11 Scheduled Monuments and 16 Conservation Areas. A number of Local Plan policies address the protection and enhancement of the historic environment and so should help to mitigate the potential negative effects of new development on cultural heritage. In particular, Draft Strategic Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment supports the protection and enhancement of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings. The Policy seeks to update Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans, address Heritage at Risk, consider the use of Article 4 Directions, support the development of Listed Building Heritage Partnership Agreements, support heritage-led regeneration and consider the use of Local Listed Building Consent Orders. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges aims to preserve settlement identity and local and historic character. Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments supports the protection and enhancement of heritage assets through development proposals and the inclusion of public art. Finally, Draft Policy 14: Tourism and the visitor economy supports development that protects and enhances places of historic character and appearance.

7.13 Other policies encourage consideration for heritage assets and mitigation lowering the potential impacts of new development on cultural heritage features in and around North East Lincolnshire. These include Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries, Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure, Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network, Draft Policy 4 Landscape, Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation, Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites, Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses.

7.14 However, the high concentration of heritage assets within Grimsby and Cleethorpes where most development will be focused under the favoured approach for the overall spatial strategy will likely result in some negative

impacts on heritage assets and the setting of assets. Negative effects will also be likely as a result of the extraction of minerals through Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates.

7.15 The assessment of site allocations against this objective was based on the proximity of sites to designated heritage assets. Due to the fact most of the residential and employment site allocations are located within 1km of a heritage asset, development is likely to have adverse effects on the historic environment. No mitigation in relation to the historic environment is included within Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations. Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites provides general mitigation regarding the development of the strategic housing sites, requiring proposals to undertake a heritage impact assessment and that appropriate measures for mitigation and adding value to local heritage should be identified and set out in the assessment. The mitigation will help to minimise the negative effects associated with SA Objective 4.

7.16 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA3: Cultural Heritage.

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

7.17 North East Lincolnshire contains the Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site. There are also 32 Local Wildlife Sites and four Local Nature Reserves. Housing and employment growth proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could have negative effects on biodiversity, particularly where development is proposed on greenfield land (although it is recognised that brownfield land can still harbour valuable biodiversity). Conversely, there may be opportunities to promote habitat connectivity if new developments include green infrastructure. 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 non-designated 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.

7.18 Mitigation relating to this SA objective is mainly covered within the Natural Environment section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. Draft Policy 6:

Biodiversity and geodiversity aims to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity. The Council will have regard to enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity when considering development proposals and will seek to conserve and enhance international, national and local sites of biological and geological conservation importance. The policy also requires development to follow the mitigation hierarchy, retain and enhance habitats and species of importance, improve connectivity between components of the Borough's ecological network and support nature recovery. This will help minimise the loss of biodiversity features while restoring and enhancing these features. Draft Policy 7: Habitat Mitigation - South Humber Bank provides extensive provision for habitat mitigation through Strategic Mitigation Sites. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges and Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network supports the development and enhancement of a network of green space and enhancing the overall quality of the environment while conserving and enhancing local wildlife and wildlife sites.

7.19 The residential and employment site allocations have been assessed against this objective on the basis of Impact Risk Zones and their proximity to Local Wildlife Sites, and whether they contain an existing green and blue infrastructure asset that could be lost as a result of development. However, the potential impacts of biodiversity present at each site or within close proximity to each development site, would be determined once more specific proposals are developed and submitted as part of a planning application. A large proportion of the site allocations were found to have negligible effects on biodiversity. Furthermore, mitigation within Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations will ensure that any residential development will not have adverse impacts on any Habitat sites. Strategic housing sites SH1 and SH2 are within close proximity of a Local Wildlife Site. SH3 is not located in close proximity to a Local Wildlife Site. SH1 also contains an existing green infrastructure asset that could be lost as a result of development. Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites seeks to deliver development within a framework of green and blue infrastructure, that maximises linkage to the wider green and blue infrastructure network and enhances the ecological value of the site through the implementation of measures to secure at least 10% biodiversity net gain.

7.20 Alongside the SA, a separate HRA of the Local Plan has been undertaken to consider the potential for the Local Plan to impact upon internationally designated biodiversity sites. The Appropriate Assessment undertaken as part of the HRA concluded that no adverse effect on integrity of the Habitats sites will occur, subject to the recommendations set out in the HRA including strengthening of some policy wording.

7.21 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed significant positive and minor negative effect (++/-) on SA4: Biodiversity and Geodiversity.

SA Objective 5: Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

7.22 There are currently no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) within North East Lincolnshire and during 2024, there was an overall decrease in the annual mean NO2 concentrations recorded at diffusion tube sites and all automatic monitoring stations when compared to 2023. However, the scale of growth proposed in the Local Plan could result in increases in air pollution, particularly from higher vehicle numbers on local roads. The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan includes numerous policies (and strategic objectives) seeking to encourage modal shift and increase levels of sustainable transport use, which will have the associated benefits of reducing air pollution from car use. These policies will help to mitigate the potential negative effects of the scale of growth proposed in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, which could lead to increased traffic in the area. The second objective of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan states that the Plan will make a contribution to the mitigation of, and adaption to, climate change and work towards minimising pollution. The majority of the policies within the Spatial Strategy section (including the policy for the distribution of growth) will have a positive effect on this SA objective by directing development to the most sustainable locations and enhancing active travel and public transport networks This includes Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy, Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges and Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure.

7.23 In addition, a number of policies require development to consider impacts on air quality when considering development proposals. These include Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure, Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments and Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates. As well as this, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network and Draft Policy 4: Landscape support climate change mitigation and encourage the retention of trees which will help reduce carbon emissions. Furthermore, some of the policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport and support reducing the need to travel which will have a positive impact on lowering carbon emissions and air quality. These include Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport, Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites.

7.24 However, providing the level of growth proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan may attract more people to North East Lincolnshire which could increase the number of cars on the road and have adverse effects on air quality. In addition, a number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan may encourage the use of the car and an increase in associated emissions by enhancing parking facilities. These include Draft Policy 10: Parking provision and Draft Strategic Policy 14: Tourism and the visitor economy.

7.25 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA5: Air.

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

7.26 Only a small number of policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan are expected to have an effect on this SA objective. This is because the objectives and most of the Local Plan policies do not explicitly address this objective although a number of the Strategic Objectives support the efficient use of natural resources and Strategic Objective 10: Minerals and Waste explicitly addresses safeguarding minerals.

7.27 The efficient use of minerals is dealt with in the Providing for Minerals section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. The three policies (Draft Policy 23: Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure, Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates, and Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (Minerals)) are all expected to have positive effects on this SA objective due to safeguarding minerals and contributing to the regional supply of aggregates. Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (Minerals) specifically relates to restoring sites that have been used for mineral extraction.

7.28 A number of policies support resource efficiency in development by requiring development to provide opportunities for renewable energy and the inclusion of water efficiency measures. These policies include Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites and Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments. In addition, Draft Policy 1: Water Management requires residential development to demonstrate a water efficiency standard of 110 litres per person per day. The policy also requires commercial and industrial development to prepare a Water Resources Assessment to determine the sources, extent, dependability and quality of water

resources and support their efficient use and control. Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living promotes the 'energy hierarchy' and is supportive of energy efficient and low carbon development. Furthermore, Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure supports renewable energy development and aims to maximise its generation with North East Lincolnshire.

7.29 However, the level of development proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan will likely result in the use of natural resources through the construction of and the lifespan of a development.

7.30 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed significant positive and minor negative effect (++/-) on SA6: Resources.

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

7.31 Only a small number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan are expected to have an effect on this SA objective. Strategic Objective 10: Minerals and Waste explicitly deals with promoting the waste hierarchy and manging waste in a sustainable way. The Providing for Waste section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan contains policies which deal with safeguarding waste facilities and supports the development of waste facilities. This will help maximise the recovery of waste and ensure it is managed appropriately.

7.32 A number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan support the management and reduction of waste through new developments. Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates support developments that can contribute to secondary aggregate supplies through the processing of Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste (CDEW). Draft Policy 20: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers requires development proposals for gypsy and traveller pitches to consider waste disposal. In addition, Draft Policy 1: Water management requires development proposals to demonstrate that adequate foul water treatment is available. Opportunities should also be taken to include features such as surface water retention basins or provide rainwater harvesting solutions for water reuse and recycling. Finally, Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living requires major development schemes to minimise waste and promote the re-use of materials derived from excavation and demolition.

7.33 New development of the scale proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan will result in the generation of waste, both in construction and operation.

7.34 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA7: Waste.

SA Objective 8: Maintain and improve water quality

7.35 Across North East Lincolnshire the condition of waterbodies is considered poor and this issue could be exacerbated by the scale of growth proposed in the Local Plan. Most of the policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan will have negligible effects on this objective, although a small number directly seek to address water quality in North East Lincolnshire and so will have positive effects and should help to mitigate the potential adverse effects of new development.

7.36 Draft Policy 1: Water Management is the overarching policy covering the effective management of water and ensure that development does not negatively impact water quality. Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges requires proposals in strategic wedges to improve the quality and function of blue infrastructure. Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network requires developments to incorporate multifunctional sustainable drainage that improves water quality and manages flood risk. Policies such as these will provide mitigation for the potential negative effects of the overall scale of new development on the water environment. In addition a number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan require consideration to be given in relation to access to water and watercourses. This includes Draft Policy 20: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk.

7.37 The residential and employment site allocations were considered in relation to whether they fall within a Source Protection Zone or contain a watercourse or waterbody. The majority of residential and employment site allocations would have negative effects against this SA objective due to the high number of watercourses and the fact that the majority of North East Lincolnshire is covered by Source Protection Zones.

7.38 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive effect (+) on SA8: Water.

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

7.39 Much of the urban area within North East Lincolnshire is located within a high flood risk zone (Flood Zones 2 or 3). A large part of Immingham, Grimsby and Cleethorpes are covered by Flood Zone 2 and 3. The majority of Grimsby and some of Cleethorpes centre falls within Flood Zone 2 or 3 due to both urban areas lying on the banks of the Humber Estuary. Therefore, the coastline of North East Lincolnshire is protected by way of a sea wall maintained by the Environment Agency.

7.40 Therefore, development of the scale proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could result in an increased risk of flooding, particularly if development is on greenfield land or areas of high risk of flooding. Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy directs most development to Grimsby and Cleethorpes and some development to Immingham, where there is the potential for an increase in flood risk within these areas. However, Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites requires development to deliver foul and surface water drainage infrastructure in a way that ties into green infrastructure provision. In addition, Draft Policy 20: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers requires development to not be in areas of flood risk.

7.41 Several objectives and policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan are expected to have a positive effect on this SA objective. SO2 Climate change aims to respond to the increasing risk of flooding and mitigate flood risk. Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood Risk explicitly deals with reducing and managing flood risk. The Policy requires development proposals to demonstrate that a flood risk assessment has been undertaken, no unacceptable increase in flood risk, incorporation of SuDS and the provision of natural flood management and mitigation where required. The policy also sets requirements for flood defence infrastructure, including the maintenance of a 15 metre buffer clear of development from the toe of the existing defences between the ports of Immingham and Grimsby. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries requires development proposals to take into account flood risk and encourage development to be located away from areas of high flood risk. Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure requires contributions towards drainage and surface water management and flood defences. This will help reduce flood risk associated with new development and manage surface water levels. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure will consider the potential impact of renewable and low carbon energy generating systems proposals in terms of increasing the risk of flooding.

7.42 A number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan encourage the creation and enhancement of green infrastructure. This will indirectly have a positive effect on reducing flood risk and aiding flood mitigation. This includes Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network, Draft Policy 4: Landscape and Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation.

7.43 The site allocations were assessed in relation to whether they fall within a Flood Zone or at risk of surface water flooding. The majority of residential and employment site allocations are likely to have a significant negative effect as they fall within a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding and/or are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 3. The 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding is rather extensive across the whole of North East Lincolnshire.

7.44 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA9: Flooding.

SA Objective 10: Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

7.45 The Local Plan includes several policies which directly seek to promote social inclusion, as well as Strategic Objective 5. Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries supports development within the open countryside that has been identified through the neighbourhood planning process. The Policy also requires all development proposals within development boundaries to take into account connectivity, advice from the Health and Safety executive, the need to protect the amenity of existing and future occupiers, and to consider service provision. Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges will have a positive impact on mental and physical health through offering direct links to the countryside and providing areas for recreation. Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure will ensure contributions are sought for enhancement to services. Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation will specifically seek the provision of open space, play space, and recreational facilities.

7.46 In addition, some of the policies within the Design and Amenity section support high quality sustainable design (Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments) and ensure that at least 5% of parking bays to be designed and reserved for people with mobility impairments (Draft Policy 10: Parking provision). The provision of housing through the policies within the Housing section (Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites,

Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing, Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions and Draft Policy 18: Housing mix) will support the creation of balanced communities and safe and welcoming places that promote social inclusion and reduce levels of deprivation. Furthermore, Draft Strategic Policy 22: Social and cultural places will seek to promote access to cultural facilities enhancing existing provision.

7.47 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative minor positive effect (+) on SA10: Social inclusion.

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

7.48 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan includes a number of objectives and policies that will combine to improve the health and wellbeing of local people, both directly and indirectly. In particular, Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing requires development proposals to promote, support and enhance physical and mental health and wellbeing, and thus contribute to reducing health inequalities. In addition, a number of policies support development within the main urban areas of North East Lincolnshire which offers the best accessibility to health services. This includes Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy and Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses. Draft Strategic Policy 22: Social and cultural places will improve access to cultural and creative activities which can have a positive effect on mental health. Providing the level of growth proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could put pressure on existing healthcare facilities such as GP surgeries. However, the Plan makes provision for contributions towards improved health infrastructure which includes doctor's surgeries and pharmacies through Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure.

7.49 Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries, Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges and Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network requires proposals to contribute to and provide areas of green infrastructure. There is also a requirement within Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges and Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network to improve connections to the countryside. Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation in particular, makes extensive provision for sport, recreation and green space. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites requires development to incorporate open space, play and recreation provision, specifically the provision of equipped play areas, allotments, provision and sports fields. This will provide opportunities for formal and informal recreation improving physical and mental wellbeing.

7.50 Other Local Plan policies will address health and wellbeing indirectly, in particular those that seek to increase walking and cycling, reduce flood risk, ensure consideration of pollution levels and the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, e.g. through biodiversity net gain. Ecosystems rich in biodiversity have the capacity to remove pollutants from the air and increasing levels of walking and cycling, often facilitated through green infrastructure delivery, has the potential to reduce use of the private car and associated pollutants, which can be damaging to human health. This includes policies Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport, Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk, Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure, and Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and secondary aggregates.

7.51 The residential and employment site allocations were assessed against this SA objective on the basis of access to existing healthcare facilities and open space. All the site allocations are within close proximity to these services. Growth proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could put pressure on existing healthcare facilities such as GP surgeries. Neither Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations or Draft Policy 16: development of the strategic housing sites include site-specific mitigation in relation to healthcare provision. However, the Plan makes provision for contributions towards improved health infrastructure commensurate with any additional demand placed on existing provision through Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure. Infrastructure provision in relation to strategic sites is set out within Draft Policy 16: Development of strategic housing sites.

7.52 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative minor positive effect (+) on SA11: Health and Wellbeing.

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

7.53 Most of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan policies will have negligible effects on this SA objective as most will not directly influence levels of crime (this is also not addressed by the strategic objectives). However, one of the policies, within the Design and Amenity section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, does directly address this issue. Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments requires development to achieve crime and fear of crime reduction.

7.54 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative minor positive effect (+) on SA12: Crime.

SA Objective 13: Create vibrant communities

7.55 A number of policies will indirectly have positive effects on this SA objective. In particular, policies that support sustainable development, regeneration and protecting local distinctiveness can have a positive effect of local communities and help create new communities. In addition, a number of the Strategic Objectives will have a positive impact on this SA objective through meeting the needs of people, providing high quality housing, enhancing access to services and lowering levels of deprivation.

7.56 A higher number of positive effects on this SA objective were identified within the Spatial Strategy and Town Centres, Social and Cultural Places of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement hierarchy directs development to the main urban areas, which will support regeneration within these areas. It will also encourage residents to live in the same areas that they may work within. This is complimented by Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries which requires development proposals to have regard to service provision and retain the identity of settlements. Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges will ensure Green Wedges offer communities direct and continuous links to the countryside. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure ensures that developers contributions are sought towards community facilities. These strategic policies will all benefit communities within North East Lincolnshire. The policies within the Town Centres, Social and Cultural Places Section all support the enhancement of centres in North East Lincolnshire and services provision. This includes Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy, Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses and Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places. This is also supported through Draft Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy which encourages developments which support local distinctiveness.

7.57 A number of other policies are included within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan which will provide benefits to communities. Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure requires development of utility and commercial scale solar or onshore wind to demonstrate a benefit to local communities, taking into account the Community Benefits Guidance for Onshore Wind in England. In addition, Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing recognises the role of community participation in health and wellbeing. Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation supports community use of sports facilities for schools. Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions will ensure that affordable homes are available for local people within rural areas. Finally, Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites requires the development of

strategic sites to support sustainable communities and create a strong sense of community.

7.58 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative minor positive effect (+) on SA13: Community.

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

7.59 The scale of development proposed through the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan could put increased pressure on local services, facilities and education, if appropriate provision is not made as part of new developments. While most of the increased pressure will come from residential development, the development of employment sites will also increase pressure for transport infrastructure, as well as some types of services and facilities. However, the Local Plan makes provision for the delivery of new services, facilities and infrastructure through a number of specific policies, namely those in the Town centres, Social and Cultural Places section of the Plan. These policies should combine to mitigate the increased pressure from new development. Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy supports the enhancement of the role of centres which includes supporting development that enhances the range of services and facilities. Also, Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses mixed development that will add to the vitality and viability of a town centre. Finally, Draft Strategic Policy 22: Social and cultural places specifically aims to enhance access to cultural activities.

7.60 Additional policies providing mitigation include Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement hierarchy which directs development to the urban areas of Grimsby and Cleethorpes where there is good access to services and facilities or these can be more easily provided. In addition, through Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries development proposals are required to have regard to the provision of services. Other policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan address the provision of services and facilities; for example, Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure, Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing, Draft Policy 5: Open space and recreation, Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites, Draft Policy 18: Housing mix and Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers. These policies will help reduce the potential for services to become overloaded as a result of development.

7.61 The residential and employment site allocations were assessed against this objective on the basis of their proximity to Grimsby, Cleethorpes and local

service centres. Reflecting the overall spatial strategy, a substantial number of site allocations are located in close proximity to these settlements and therefore are in locations accessible to services and facilities.

7.62 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative significant positive effect (++) on SA14: Services and Facilities.

SA Objective 15: Promote sustainable transport use

7.63 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan includes numerous policies seeking to reduce the need to travel and increase levels of walking, cycling and the use of public transport. These policies will help to mitigate the potential negative effects of the overall scale of growth proposed in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, which could lead to increased traffic in the area and associated pollution. In particular Draft Strategic Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport addresses this. However, Draft Policy 10: Parking provision and Draft Strategic Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy could encourage the use of private vehicles.

7.64 A number of policies encourage development towards the main urban centres which provides the best access to sustainable modes of transport and services (Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy, Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries, Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing, Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites, Draft Policy 18: Housing mix, Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy and Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses).

7.65 A number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan aim to enhance active travel routes which could encourage walking and cycling. These include Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges, Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network and Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments.

7.66 The residential and employment site allocations were assessed in relation to their proximity to public transport links and walking and cycling routes. The majority of sites were not located within 1.8km of a railway station but were within 450m of a bus stop or cycle path, but not both. However, a high proportion of sites perform positively against this SA objective. Draft Policy 16: Development of strategic housing sites supports the delivery of active travel infrastructure as part of the development of these sites.

7.67 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed minor positive and minor negative effect (+/-) on SA15: Sustainable Travel.

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

7.68 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan seeks to deliver 621 homes annually over the Plan period, meeting local housing needs. Policies in the Housing section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan will combine to ensure that the housing provided on the allocated sites is of high quality and includes a range of types and tenures, including housing to meet the needs of specific groups as set out in Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites. Draft Policy 18: Housing mix requires developments to provide a mix of housing tenures, types and sizes while establishing sustainable communities. This includes specialist homes for older people and other people with specific needs. There is also a requirement for homes built to Lifetime Standards and support for the development of empty or derelict properties. Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing commits the Council to 20% of housing on greenfield land should be affordable and 15% on brownfield sites in high market zones. Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries requires contributions to be sought towards affordable housing. Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers will ensure that provision is made for North East Lincolnshire's Gypsy and Traveller population. Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy directs development towards the main urban areas and local service centres offering the best accessibility to job opportunities and housing. Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries is supportive of development which could result in the delivery of housing to meet the need of North East Lincolnshire.

7.69 The amended Building Regulations 2024 alongside Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living will ensure that new housing developments are built to a high standard of energy efficiency, improving the quality of housing stock.

7.70 A number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan have the potential to restrict the delivery of housing. These include Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network, and Draft Policy 4: Landscape. However, these policies are not considered a barrier to the delivery of the overall scale of residential development required.

7.71 A total of 34 residential sites are allocated, including three strategic housing site allocations. In addition, a number of sites already under construction have been carried forward from the current Local Plan.

7.72 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative significant positive effect (++) on SA16: Housing.

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

7.73 North East Lincolnshire sits within three National Character Areas; Lincolnshire Wolds, Humber Estuary and Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes. Therefore, North East Lincolnshire contains a variety of landscapes including agricultural land, the expansive waters of the Humber Estuary and wide coastal plains. The Lincolnshire Wolds is designated as an National Landscape and covers the southern part of North East Lincolnshire. The overall scale of development proposed in the Local Plan could result in negative effects on these sensitive landscapes.

7.74 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan incorporates a policy that specifically aims to conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape (Draft Policy 4: Landscape). Additionally, other policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan aim to protect greenfield land from development, prevent urban sprawling into the countryside and not result in negative effects on the local landscape and character of settlements. These include Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development boundaries, Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges, Draft Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment and Draft Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy, Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions, Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers, Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses and Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and Secondary Aggregates. In addition, Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement hierarchy directs development to the main urban areas which could reduce the level of greenfield development.

7.75 Policies relating to the provision of green infrastructure will benefit the overall character and appearance of the area. This includes Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk, Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network, Draft Policy 2: Green space and recreation, Draft Policy 10: Parking provision and Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites.

7.76 Policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan also provide mitigation to reduce the impact of development (Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure, Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure, Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living and Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments. Finally, Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (Minerals) and Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (Waste) support land being restored to a high quality.

7.77 The Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study was used to understand the potential impact of development through the site allocations on North East Lincolnshire's landscape. The majority of the residential and employment site allocations were found to have negligible or minor negative effects as these sites fall within areas assessed as having medium or medium-low capacity for development. No landscape related mitigation is included within Draft Policy 15: Housing allocations. Draft Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites requires development of SH1 – Grimsby West, SH2 – Humberston Road, Grimsby and SH3 – Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham to deliver boundary treatments and the creation of green infrastructure as part of development. this will help to minimise the negative impacts on the landscape as a result of development at these strategic sites.

7.78 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative mixed significant positive and minor negative effect (++/-) on SA17: Landscape.

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

7.79 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan supports economic growth and job creation across the plan period which will include provision for a minimum of 86ha of employment land supporting the delivery of 6,525 jobs. Draft Policy 12: Existing employment areas in the Employment section will directly support new employment development and safeguarding existing employment areas. The remaining policies within the Employment section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan will enhance skills and training opportunities (Draft Policy 13: Skills and training) and support development that contributes to the visitor economy (Draft Strategic Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy). In addition a number of policies (Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy and Draft Policy 21: Town centres uses) within the Town centres, Social and Cultural Places section

support the enhancement of town centres within North East Lincolnshire which will have a positive impact on North east Lincolnshire's economy. In particular, Draft Policy 21: Town centres uses supports office accommodation provision in the town centres.

7.80 Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy directs development towards the main urban areas and local service centres offering the best accessibility to job opportunities and housing. Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries is supportive of development in the countryside that enhances the rural economy. Also, effectively managing flood risk through Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk will benefit North East Lincolnshire's economy. In addition, Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport seeks to make suitable provision to accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies, which may benefit local economic activity.

7.81 A number of policies within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan have the potential to restrict the delivery of employment land. These include Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic wedges, and Draft Policy 4: Landscape as it is possible that delivering new commercial development may be restricted in some instances due to the landscape-related requirements of these policies. However, these policies are not considered to be a barrier to the delivery of the overall scale of employment land required.

7.82 A total of 20 employment sites have been allocated within the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. this will support the delivery of 6,525 new jobs as set out within Draft Strategy Policy 1: Employment land requirements.

7.83 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative Significant positive effect (++) on SA18: Economic Growth.

SA Objective 19: Provide good education and training opportunities

7.84 Most of the policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan are expected to have negligible effects on this objective. However, a number of Strategic Objectives have a positive effect on this SA Objective by facilitating economic development, supporting skills development and providing accessible training opportunities.

7.85 A number of policies within the Spatial Strategy section of the Pre-Submission Draft Local plan are expected to have positive effects on this SA Objective. Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure requires developments to

contribute towards primary, secondary and special education needs. Requirements in relation to education are also set out within Draft Strategic Policy 16: Development of the strategic housing sites. Draft Policy 13: Skills and training supports development proposals that relate directly to the development of local skills and training opportunities. In addition, Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses will enhance educational provision through supporting mixed use development.

7.86 The employment site allocations were assessed in relation to the size of the employment land. For this reason, all the sites perform positively against this SA objective. The majority of sites are 5 hectares or more. In relation to residential site allocations, these sites were assessed in relation to proximity to primary or secondary school or a college. The majority of sites perform positively against this SA objective as they are located in close proximity to educational facilities.

7.87 Overall, the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is expected to have a cumulative minor positive effect (+) on SA19: Education.

Table 7.2: Summary of SA findings for the Objectives and Policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
Draft Strategic Policy 1: Employment land requirements	+/-?	--?	--?	--?	-?	--?	0	--?	0?	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	--?	++	0
Draft Strategic Policy 2: The housing requirement and delivery	--?	--?	--?	--?	--?	--?	-?	--?	0?	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	++	-?	+	+
SO1 Population	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	++	0	++	+
SO2 Climate change	++	0	0	+	++	++	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
SO3 Economy	+	0	-?	-?	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	++	+
SO4 Housing	0	+	-?	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	-?	0	0
SO5 Social and health inequality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+
SO6 Built, historic and natural environment	0	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	++	-?	0
SO7 Transport	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0
SO8 Town centres and local facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	++	0	0	0	0	0
SO9 Design	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	0
SO10 Minerals and Waste	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 3: Settlement Hierarchy	+/-	+/-?	-?	-?	+/-	0	0	0	-?	+/-	+	0	+/-	++/-	+	+	+/-	+	++/-
Draft Strategic Policy 4: Distribution of housing growth	0	+?	-?	-?	0	-?	0	-?	0?	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	-?	+	+
Draft Strategic Policy 5: Development Boundaries	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	++	++	+	+	++	+	+
Draft Strategic Policy 6: Strategic Wedges	+	0	++	++	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	-	++	-	0
Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure	0	0	+/-?	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	++	0	++	++	+	+	+/-?	0	++

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
Draft Strategic Policy 8: Flood risk	++	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0
Draft Policy 1: Water management	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 9: Renewable and low carbon infrastructure	++	+	+/-?	+/-?	+	++	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+/-?	0	0
Draft Policy 2: Energy and low carbon living	++	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0
Draft Policy 3: Health and wellbeing	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 10: Developing a green and blue infrastructure network	+	0	0	++	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0
Draft Policy 4: Landscape	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	++	-	0
Draft Policy 5: Open Space and Recreation	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0
Draft Policy 6: Biodiversity and geodiversity	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	-?	0
Draft Policy 7: Habitat mitigation – South Humber Bank	0	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 11: Good design in new developments	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	0
Draft Policy 8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0
Draft Policy 9: Promoting sustainable transport	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	++	0	0	+	0
Draft Policy 10: Parking provision	+/-?	0	0	+/-	+/-?	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+	0	0
Draft Policy 12: Existing employment areas	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0
Draft Policy 13: Skills and training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
Draft Policy 14: Tourism and Visitor economy	0	0	+	+	-?	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	-?	0	+	++	0
SH1 – Grimsby West	+/-	--	-?	+/-?	+/-	0?	0	0?	-	0	++	0	+	++	++	++	-	+	++
SH2 – Humberston Road, grimsby	+	--	-?	+?	+	+	0	0?	-	0	++	0	+	++	+	++	0	++	++
SH3 – Land west of Stallingborough Road and Habrough Road, Immingham	+	--	-?	++?	+	+	0	0?	-	0	++	0	+	++	++	++	-	+	++
Draft Strategic Policy 12: Affordable housing	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0
Draft Policy 17: Rural exceptions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0
Draft Policy 18: Housing mix	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	0
Draft Policy 19: Self-build and custom build housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0
Draft Policy 20: Provision for gypsies and travellers	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	++	+	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 13: Retail hierarchy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	+	0	++	0
Draft Policy 11: Town centre uses	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	++	++	+	0	+	++	+
Draft Policy 21: Town centre uses	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	++	++	+	0	+	++	+
Draft Policy 22: Social and cultural places	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	++	++	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Policy 23: Safeguarding minerals and related infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Policy 24: Future mineral extraction and Secondary Aggregates	0	0	+/-	+/-	+	++/-	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0
Draft Policy 25: Restoration and aftercare (minerals)	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
Draft Strategic Policy 14: Safeguarding waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
facilities and related infrastructure																			
Draft Policy 26: Waste facility requirements	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
Draft Policy 27: Restoration and aftercare (waste)	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
ELR001: Pelham Estate, Kings Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?
ELR007: Hall Park Road, Immingham (Formerly Manby Road Business Park)	0	-	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	+	+?
ELR008a: Europarc Phase 3	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	-	?	+	+?
ELR008e: Europarc Phase 3	0	--	-?	0?/--?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	+	+?
ELR011: Europarc Phase 4	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	?	++	++?
ELR015a: Great Coates Business Park Moody Lane	0	++	0?	0?/--?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	-	0	-	++	++?
ELR015b: Great Coates Business Park Moody Lane	0	++	0?	0?/--?	0	0	0	0	--	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	-	+	++?
ELR016a: Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR016b: Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	++	0	+	+	+?
ELR016c: Kiln Lane Expansion Site Stallingborough (The Helm)	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	+	+	+?
ELR019: Abengoa Site, Hobson Way	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
ELR020: Land east of Hobson Way, Stallingborough	0	--	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	0	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	?	++	++?
ELR021: Novartis Moody Lane	0	--	0?	--?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR022: Plot Q Kiln Lane	0	++	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	+?
ELR027: Land east of Queens Road, Immingham	0	++	0?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	?	++	++?
ELR037: Land r/o Marlin House, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+?
ELR041: Land west of Kings Road, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	+	++?
ELR042: Former Novartis factory site, Grimsby	0	++	0?	--?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	-	++	++?
ELR043: Mauxhall Farm, Stallingborough Road, Immingham	0	--	-?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	0	-	0	+	++	++?
ELR044: Manby Road, Immingham	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	--	++	++?
HOU005: Land west of Stallingborough Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	+	+	+?
HOU061A: Weelsby Avenue Depot	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU063A: Land north of Wootton Road	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	++?
HOU064A: Burwell Drive/Winchester Road	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	0?	+	+?
HOU068B: Land off Butt Lane	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	+?
HOU074B: Land west of Humberston Road	0	--	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	0	++	-	++	++?
HOU084A: Land at Midfield Farm south of Sinderson Road and east of Cherry Close	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU104: Land at Louth Road	0	--	0?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	-	+	++?
HOU110: Land to the west of Cheapside	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	+?
HOU129: Land to the west of Cheapside	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	-	++	0	+	-?
HOU139: Land to the north of Humberston Avenue	0	-	--?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	-	++	++?
HOU141A: Former Matthew Humberston School Field	0	-	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU146A: Land rear of Humberston Avenue	0	--	0?	+?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	+	+?
HOU154: YMCA, Peakes Lane	0	++	--?	+?0?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	-	+	++?
HOU180A: Land at Meadow Farm	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	-?
HOU190A: Land east of Ayscough Avenue and north of Healing Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	++	++	0	+	+?
HOU272A: Land east of Cartergate	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU287A: Land north of Woodland Way, (east of Grimsby Road)	0	--	-?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	-	+	+?
HOU294: Land adjacent to railway line, off Station Road	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	0?	++	+	-	+	+?
HOU338: The Old Nurseries, Cheapside	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	-	+	0	-	-?
HOU340: Land south of 69 to 90 Humberston Avenue	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	+	-?
HOU342: Grimsby West Urban Extension	0	--	--?	0?/0?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	--	+	++?
HOU351: Land at Caistor Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	-?

SA Objective	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19
HOU351A: Land at Caistor Road	0	--	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	++	0/--?	+	-?
HOU353: Lindsey Lower School Playing fields	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU354A: Duchess Street car park	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	-?
HOU355: Scartho Top Playing Field, Heimdal Road	0	-	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	+?
HOU373: Land of former tower blocks Washdyke Lane	0	++	--?	+?/0?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	?	++	++?
HOU374: Land off Waltham Road (adjoining Waltham Village)	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	--?	--	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	-?
HOU375: 260 Macaulay Lane	0	++	-?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	-	++	+?
HOU380: Garth Lane (Alexander Docks)	0	++	--?	0?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	+?
HOU386: R/t 73 to 105 Granville Street (Garages)	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	-?	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	++	++?
HOU388: Eleanor House, 19 Eleanor Street	0	++	--?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	+	0	0	++	++	+	?	+	++?
HOU394: Habrough Road	0	--	-?	+?/++?	0	0	0	-?	--	0	++	0	0	+	++	++	--	+	+?

Duration of Effects

7.88 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan sets out how growth will be planned, facilitated and managed over the Plan period up to 2043 and beyond. Effects may be experienced in the short-term (defined for this SA as over the next five years), medium-term (defined as over the next 10 years), or long-term effects (defined as over the whole Plan period). Given the nature of the policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, it is difficult to be precise about when, where and in what form all the effects will arise, and how one effect might relate to another. However, it is possible to draw some broad conclusions about the nature and inter-relationship of the effects that the SA has identified.

7.89 Most of the effects will be long-term, in that the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan aims to facilitate and manage growth and associated infrastructure that will last over time. There will be some temporary and short- or medium-term effects during site allocation preparation, construction or operation (see below).

7.90 The effects which have been identified in the appraisal of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, both positive and negative, are likely to increase over time, as the policies in the plan are implemented, and more developments are delivered in North East Lincolnshire.

Short-term Effects

7.91 The effects of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan in the short-term are mostly related to the initial impacts of commencing development early in the Plan period. These will include the removal of vegetation, soil, and provision of infrastructure required. Such works could have negative impacts on biodiversity, health and well-being, amenity of local communities (possible disruption to rights of way, traffic flows, noise generation, vibration, dust etc.), soil quality, and the landscape. However, these impacts are temporary in nature, and some may be minimised through good design, adherence to the policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan or reversed through restoration measures in the long-term.

Medium-term Effects

7.92 Medium-term positive effects relate to the employment and economic benefits of development, new communities and employment centres. Negative

effects in the medium-term include the implications of having greater densities of residents and workers in parts of North East Lincolnshire on health and well-being, the amenity of local communities (e.g. noise, increased traffic etc.), and on environmental quality. However, these impacts should be avoided or mitigated through the adherence to the policies in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan when planning proposals are assessed and determined by North East Lincolnshire Council.

Long-term Effects

7.93 Long-term, permanent benefits that would result from the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan include the provision of sufficient homes, new service, facilities and infrastructure and employment opportunities to meet North East Lincolnshire's needs. New developments will also enable flood alleviation schemes, habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement, recreation enhancement as well and the conservation of North East Lincolnshire's landscapes and historic environment. Long-term, permanent negative impacts of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan are potentially: loss of habitats and areas of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land; and climate change implications of the energy required to power new homes and businesses and vehicle movements to and from waste sites, at least until zero carbon alternatives are fully implemented towards the end of the Plan period.

Chapter 8
Monitoring

8.1 The SEA Regulations require that "the responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental 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" and that the environmental report should provide information on "a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring". Monitoring proposals should be designed to provide information that can be used to highlight specific issues and significant effects, and which could help decision-making.

8.2 Monitoring should be focused on the significant sustainability effects that may give rise to irreversible damage (with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused) and the significant effects where there is uncertainty in the SA and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be taken. These indicators were originally developed and included as part of the SA Scoping Report produced by LUC for North East Lincolnshire Council. The monitoring framework has been updated to align with the monitoring framework within the Local Plan. The monitoring framework has been refined to focus on the SA objectives against which significant (including uncertain) effects have been recorded.

8.3 The data used for monitoring in many cases will be provided by outside bodies. Information collected by other organisations (e.g. the Environment Agency) can also be used as a source of indicators. It is therefore recommended that the Council continues the dialogue with statutory environmental consultees and other stakeholders that has already commenced, and works with them to agree the relevant sustainability effects to be monitored and to obtain information that is appropriate, up to date and reliable.

SA Monitoring Framework

SA Objective 1

- Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change

Indicators

- Recorded flood events.
- Pollution events recorded.
- Carbon emissions in North East Lincolnshire.
- Renewable energy approved/completed (large scale).

SA Objective 2

- Achieve efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land

Indicators

- Percentage of new development on brownfield land.
- Number of empty and derelict land and property sites that have been brought back into use.

SA Objective 3

- Maintain and improve a quality built environment and preserve heritage assets

Indicators

- Number of heritage assets on the Heritage at Risk Register.
- Number of Conservation Areas with an up-to-date and adopted character assessment.
- Number of conservation areas with an up to date and adopted management plan.

SA Objective 4

- Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment

Indicators

- Number of designated Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) & Local Geological Sites (LGS). South Humber Bank Mitigation sites delivered.
- Biodiversity Opportunity Land delivered.

SA Objective 5

- Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

Indicators

- Number of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).
- Exceedances of air quality objectives.

SA Objective 6

- Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources

Indicators

- The quantity of primary aggregates produced in North East Lincolnshire.
- Amount of development coming forward in mineral safeguarding areas.
- Average Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating.
- Water efficiency of new developments.

SA Objective 7

- Reduce waste generation and increase levels of reuse and recycling

Indicators

- Total Household Waste Collected by North East Lincolnshire Council.
- Total Waste Collected per head of population.
- Household Recycling rate.
- Household waste diverted from landfill.

SA Objective 8

- Maintain and improve water quality

Indicators

- Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds.

SA Objective 9

- Reduce the impact risk of flooding on people, property and the natural environment

Indicators

- Recorded flood events.

SA Objective 10

- Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

Indicators

- Number of wards in the most 50% deprived nationally.

SA Objective 11

- Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire's population

Indicators

- Average life expectancy.
- Teenage pregnancy rate.
- Obesity rates.

SA Objective 12

- Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

Indicators

- Crime count.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- 12 month rolling rates by crime type.

SA Objective 13

- Create vibrant communities

Indicators

- Number of communities with a neighbourhood plan or neighbourhood development order.
- Number of community events taking place in NE Lincolnshire annually.

SA Objective 14

- Ensure equal access to services, facilities and opportunities for all

Indicators

- Convenience floorspace delivery.
- Retail development within town centres.
- Retail development within other locations.
- Delivery of social and cultural facilities.
- Number of new open space/equipped play approved.
- Number of essential services and facilities within local settlements.

SA Objective 15

- Promote sustainable transport use

Indicators

- Bus patronage.

- Travel to work – mode of travel.

SA Objective 16

- Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone

Indicators

- Fiver year housing land supply.
- Net additional dwellings.
- Affordability of homes
- Number of empty homes.
- Gypsy and Traveller provision.
- Unauthorised encampments.

SA Objective 17

- Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes

Indicators

- Amount of development in the AONBs.
- Change in quality of landscape character and condition.
- The condition and quality of new characteristics introduced to the environment.
- Percentage of open countryside.
- Change in areas designated for their landscape value.

SA Objective 18

- Provide good quality employment opportunities and support economic growth

Indicators

- Total number of jobs in North East Lincolnshire.

- Employment rate.
- Percentage 16-19 year olds not in education or training.
- Unemployment Rate.
- Total Businesses (Local units).
- Consented developed Employment Land/Floorspace.
- Number of visitors.
- Tourism visitor revenue.

SA Objective 19

- Provide good education and training opportunities

Indicators

- Number of apprenticeships and trainees secured.
- Resident qualifications (NVQ2 equivalent and above of residents ages 16 to 64).
- Percentage of 16-19 year olds not in education or training.

Chapter 9
Conclusion

9.1 The SA of the Pre-Submission Draft North East Lincolnshire Local Plan has been undertaken to accord with current best practice and the guidance on SA/SEA as set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance. SA objectives developed at the Scoping stage of the SA process have been used to undertake a detailed appraisal of the strategic policies and site allocations included in the current consultation document and the reasonable alternative options considered. A large number of site options has been identified and subject to SA from early on in the plan-making process. This has enabled the Council to select sites for allocation on the basis of a robust assessment of the sustainability credentials of each site, as well as other planning factors.

9.2 The Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan sets out detailed policies to address strategic and non-strategic issues in the plan area, as well as identifying specific site allocations for residential and employment development. Due to the overall scale of development proposed in the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan, adverse effects have inevitably been identified in relation to some of the SA objectives, in particular relating to biodiversity, flood risk, the landscape and efficient use of land. Some of these effects have the potential to be significant. However, the development proposed will meet the identified need for housing and economic development in North East Lincolnshire, benefiting the social and economic sustainability topics considered.

9.3 The overall development strategy, which directs most growth to the urban area including Grimsby and Cleethorpes, will minimise impacts on rural areas and will provide new residents with good access to the jobs, services and facilities in those locations, although rural settlements are not overlooked by the Plan. In addition, there is a suite of strong development management policies in the Local Plan that will help to mitigate the potential adverse effects of new development.

9.4 Infrastructure to support the housing and employment growth should be planned in and delivered in advance or alongside new development, and this is being addressed through Draft Strategic Policy 7: Infrastructure. There are also measures in the Plan to promote active travel and the use of other forms of sustainable transport which should help to reduce road travel overall, vehicle emissions and therefore air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Delivering a significant amount of the required development through the strategic sites at SH1 – Grimsby West, SH2 - Humberston Road, SH3 - Land to the west of

Stallingborough Road, and Habrough Road across Grimsby and Immingham will enable the creation of new communities, with services, facilities and employment opportunities delivered alongside housing. This will further support the delivery of sustainable development and minimise the potential adverse impacts of growth, although it is recognised that residual impacts on the landscape in particular will inevitably remain.

Next Steps

9.5 This SA Report will be made available for consultation alongside the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. The consultation responses on the Local Plan document and this SA Report will be reviewed and considered by the Council before the Local Plan is submitted for Examination.

LUC

September 2026

Appendix A
Consultation comments

A.1 This Appendix sets out the consultation comments received in relation to consultation on the previous stages of SA.

A.2 The bullet points below set out the comment received and the sub-bullet points set out how the comment has been addressed within the SA, or if no action has been taken, why not.

SA Scoping Report (February 2023)

Historic England

- In terms of the historic environment, on the whole, we consider that the Report has identified the plans and programmes which are of relevance to the development of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan and that it has established a partial Baseline against which to assess the Plan's proposals, although more detail is required. The Heritage At Risk section is welcomed.
  - Noted.
- Baseline Information – Historic Environment - Paragraph 3.110 is welcomed. It would be helpful to include reference to settings. 'Undesignated' should be changed to 'non-designated' to more closely reflect NPPF wording.
  - Reference has been added to settings in the baseline information (Appendix C in this report). References to any 'undesignated' assets have been changed to 'non-designated' throughout the report.
- SA Objective 3 is welcomed. 'Historic assets' should be amended to 'heritage assets' to more closely reflect the NPPF. The second bullet point of the Appraisal Questions could be reworded to reflect all heritage assets, both designated and non-designated and their settings, again in accordance with the NPPF.
  - The wording of this objective has been amended as requested. The wording of the second appraisal question has also been amended as requested.

- Appendix A - A.72-78 is welcomed. However, reference to more locally specific documents would be welcomed.
  - When they become available, more locally specific documents in relation to historic environment and cultural heritage will be included in future iterations the SA Report.
- Is there a site assessment methodology? Historic England would be very happy to provide comments. We would stress that a specified distance or proximity when assessing potential sites in relation to heritage assets is strongly discouraged. It is important to understand the significance of any heritage assets, and their settings that would be affected by a potential site allocation. This involves more than identifying known heritage assets within a given distance, but rather a more holistic process which seeks to understand their significance and value. Our advice available at Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment might be helpful here, as might our advice on the setting of heritage assets. https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/
  - The Site Assessment Criteria and Assumptions to be used in the SA were contained within Appendix B of the SA Scoping Report. Where it comes available, we will make use of a RAG style rating through the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment to undertake the site assessment against SA Objective 3: Maintain and improve a quality built environment and preserve historic assets.
- A greater focus on heritage within this document would be welcomed. The following guidance may be of assistance:- https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/
  - Heritage is considered along with a range of other sustainability topics in the SA. The emphasis on heritage is considered to be appropriate and proportionate considering the wider scope of the SA.
- Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological team of your authority are closely involved throughout the preparation of the SEA/SA of this Plan. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets. Historic England has produced guidance for all involved in

undertaking SEA/SA exercises which gives advice on issues relating to the historic environment as referenced above.

- Noted.

Natural England

- Environment (biodiversity/geodiversity, landscape and soils) - We note and welcome paragraph 2.42. We would also welcome reference to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), available from the Legislation.gov.uk website: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69. When considering access to the countryside we recommend that you also consider the Defra Rights of Way Circular (01/09) available from the Gov.uk website: Rights of way circular (1/09) (www.gov.uk).
  - Reference to the Defra Rights of Way Circular (01/09) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 has been added to Chapter 3 in this SA report.
- Surrounding Development Plans - It may be appropriate for your Authority to consider developing a cross boundary approach for recreational pressure on the Humber Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Ramsar. It would be useful to include North Lincolnshire Council, Hull City Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, and East Lindsay District Council, we would therefore recommend their adopted or emerging Local Plans are included within the PPP list.
  - Consideration has been given to these Local Plans as part of the review of surrounding development Plans in Chapter 3 and Appendix B of this SA report.
- Air Quality - Natural England advises that you consider ecological receptors of air pollution as well as human receptors in the SA. Habitats such as sand dunes on the Humber Estuary are sensitive to air pollution from transport, agriculture and industry. For more information about air quality impacts on sensitive habitats please see the Air Pollution Information System (APIS):http://www.apis.ac.uk/. Natural England have published guidance, NEA001, to aid competent authorities in determining effects of pollution from traffic on designated sites.
  - Effects on air quality are considered through SA objective 5 – it is recognised that there is some crossover between this and SA objective 4: biodiversity. Impacts on habitats and species specifically relating to

air quality are considered through the separate HRA, the findings of which will be taken into account in the SA.

- Natural England notes and welcomes paragraphs 3.103 to 3.109 which detail the internationally designated European sites, nationally designated SSSIs, and Local Wildlife Sites, located within the boundary of North East Lincolnshire Local Authority. The SA should identify potential for impacts at these sites due to new allocations or policies within the Review. We advise that when determining the suitability of new allocations and policies there may be a requirement to consider cross authority boundary impacts, including; impacts to sections of the Humber Estuary located within neighbouring authorities, and impacts to SSSIs located entirely within neighbouring authorities. We advise that consideration should also be given to any local geological sites, information on these sites can be acquired from local geo-conservation groups or the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership.
  - Noted. Reference to local geological sites has been added to the baseline information in this SA report.
- Natural England notes and welcomes the statement in paragraph 1.17 that a HRA will be undertaken for the Local Plan, and findings will be taken into account in the SA where applicable. We also note that under Chapter 4, Biodiversity, it is stated that the Review presents an opportunity to take into account the most recent evidence on the condition of North East Lincolnshire's designated habitats. We advise it would be beneficial to update your evidence base on recreational pressure at the Humber Estuary to understand where there are significant impacts which may be causing an adverse effect. As stated above, it would be beneficial if this was considered as a cross-boundary issue with neighbouring LPAs.
  - Noted. Reference to recreational pressure at the Humber Estuary has been added to the baseline information in Appendix C of this SA report. As recognised, this issue will primarily be addressed through the HRA, the findings of which will be taken into account in the SA.
- Net Gain - We note that Chapter 4, Biodiversity, states that enhancement of North East Lincolnshire's habitats can be delivered through Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). We welcome this and advise that any approach to BNG through development should align with the principles set out within CIRIA/CIEEM/IEMA published guidance 'Biodiversity Net Gain Good practice principles for development'.
  - Noted.

- The Local Plan should be underpinned by up to date environmental evidence. This should include an assessment of existing and potential components of local ecological networks. This assessment should inform the SA, ensure that land of least environment value is chosen for development, and that the mitigation hierarchy is followed and inform opportunities for enhancement as well as development requirements for particular sites. Priority habitats and species are those listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006 and UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Further information is available here: Habitats and species of principal importance in England.
- Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) identify the local action needed to deliver UK targets for habitats and species. They also identify targets for other habitats and species of local importance and can provide a useful blueprint for biodiversity enhancement in any particular area. Protected species are those species protected under domestic or European law. Further information can be found here Standing advice for protected species. Sites containing watercourses, old buildings, significant hedgerows and substantial trees are possible habitats for protected species. Ecological networks are coherent systems of natural habitats organised across whole landscapes so as to maintain ecological functions. A key principle is to maintain connectivity - to enable free movement and dispersal of wildlife e.g. badger routes, river corridors for the migration of fish and staging posts for migratory birds. Local ecological networks will form a key part of the wider Nature Recovery Network proposed in the 25 Year Environment Plan. Where development is proposed, opportunities should be explored to contribute to the enhancement of ecological networks. Planning positively for ecological networks will also contribute towards a strategic approach for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of green infrastructure, as identified in paragraph 175 of the NPPF.
- We note Figure 3.8 shows the extent of ancient woodland within the plan area. Where a plan area contains irreplaceable habitats, such as ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees, the SA should have due consideration for impacts which may occur to these habitats due to new allocations and policies. Natural England and the Forestry England have produced standing advice on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees.
- We note the identification of shortages of open space in certain pockets of North East Lincolnshire (3.47). Natural England has produced a Framework of Green Infrastructure Standards (Green Infrastructure Home (naturalengland.org.uk)) to advise local authorities and other stakeholders

about including green infrastructure in new housing developments, and to enhance the quality of existing green spaces and greening neighbourhoods. These can bring benefits to access and recreation, and increase wildlife, improve air quality, provide cooler areas during heatwaves and reduce the likelihood of flooding.

- Natural England expects the Plan Review to consider the strategic impacts on water quality and resources as outlined in paragraph 170 of the NPPF. We would also expect the plan to address flood risk management in line with the paragraphs 155-165 of the NPPF. The Local Plan should be based on an up to date evidence base on the water environment and as such the relevant River Basin Management Plans should inform the development proposed in the Local Plan. These Plans (available here) implement the EU Water Framework Directive and outline the main issues for the water environment and the actions needed to tackle them. Local Planning Authorities must in exercising their functions, have regard to these plans. The Local Plan should contain policies which protect habitats from water related impacts and where appropriate seek enhancement. Priority for enhancements should be focussed on European sites, SSSIs and local sites which contribute to a wider ecological network. Plans should positively contribute to reducing flood risk by working with natural processes and where possible use Green Infrastructure policies and the provision of SUDs to achieve this.
  - Noted.
- We consider Landscape Character Assessment to be a key element of the Local Plan and SA evidence base so welcome the intention to include Natural England's National Character Areas in the assessment. National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. Their boundaries follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries, making them a good decision making framework for the natural environment.
- We also note paragraph 3.123 which states that Lincolnshire Wolds is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and welcome the statement that the local plan will ensure designated and valued landscapes are protected and enhanced. However there is currently no reference to National Trails, including the proposed England Coast Path (ECP) route, Mablethorpe to Humber Bridge. Natural England advises that the Review should include policies to ensure protection and enhancement of public rights of way and National Trails, as outlined in

paragraph 100 of the NPPF. The SA should therefore consider whether new allocations or policies could impact the visual amenity of this section of the ECP.

- Noted. Reference to National Trails has been added to the Landscape section of the baseline information in Appendix C of this SA report.

- Soils - To assist in understanding agricultural land quality within the plan area and to safeguard BMV agricultural land in line with the NPPF, strategic scale ALC Maps are available. Natural England also has an archive of more detailed ALC surveys for selected locations. Both these types of data can be supplied digitally free of charge by contacting Natural England. Some of this data is also available on the magic website. The planning authority should ensure that sufficient site specific ALC survey data is available to inform decision making. For example, where no reliable or sufficiently detailed information is available, it would be reasonable to expect developers to commission a new ALC survey, for any sites they wish to put forward for consideration in the Local Plan.
  - Noted.
- SA Objective 4 - We welcome this objective which states “Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment”. B.12 states that development sites that are within 250m of one or more internationally or nationally designated sites may have a significant negative effect, and development sites between 250m and 1km of an internationally or nationally designated site may have a minor effect. However, rather than relying on set distances, we recommend use of Natural England’s SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs), available on Magic Map, when determining the effect of an allocation in the SA. In addition the impact of allocations cumulatively and in combination with other plans and projects should be taken into consideration.
  - Noted. The site appraisal assumptions have been updated (see Appendix D) to draw on the IRZs. The cumulative effects of the site allocations have been identified for each SA objective in Chapter 6 of this SA report.
- SA Objective 5 - We welcome this objective which states “Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire”. However, paragraph B.14 considers developments which are located within the AQMA, only. We would recommend that this objective is expanded to also improve air quality at nationally and internationally designated sites.

  - Air quality at nationally and internationally designated sites will be considered through the HRA, the findings of which will be taken into account in the SA.

- SA Objective 8 - We welcome this objective which states “Maintain and improve water quality”. The effects of water quality impacts should be assessed for allocations which may lead to nutrient enrichment or other pollution impacts at nationally or internationally designated sites.
  - Noted. This will be considered through the HRA.
- SA Objective 17 - We welcome this objective which states “Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes”. We note that B.38 states that sites within 500m of the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB could be determined to have a significant negative effect. We advise the effects of allocations up to 2000m from the boundary of the AONB should be assessed for significance. For solar or wind farm developments effects up to 10,000m from the boundary should be assessed for significance. We recommend the use of Natural England’s Protected Landscape IRZs which are available on Magic Map. Furthermore, we recommend that the effects on National Trails are also considered within this objective.
  - The site assumption criterion for SA objective 17 has been amended so that sites within 2km of the AONB are identified as having a potential significant negative effect. Data regarding Natural England's Protected Landscape IRZs is not available to inform the SA. National Trails are considered a recreational resource rather than directly relating to landscape character or sensitivity. Distance to an area of open space and footpath/cycle paths is considered under SA objective 11.

Environment Agency

- We are pleased that the SA Scoping Report refers to the relevant Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) requirements throughout the document. We also support that the findings of the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) will be considered in the SA, where relevant.
  - Noted.
- Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes - Paragraph 2.28 duplicates the content of paragraph 2.18. This section provides a detailed overview of the relevant topics identified in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and how the Local Plan will address each of these matters. We are particularly pleased that the ‘Environmental and Social Considerations’

section acknowledges that the Local Plan looks to address both climate change mitigation and adaptation which will be vital in addressing the climate emergency, as well as highlighting other factors such as the role of low carbon and renewable energy, biodiversity and health and wellbeing. Furthermore, we welcome paragraph 2.30 that highlights some of the key challenges and opportunities for the Local Plan regarding water efficiency, appropriate water drainage in areas at risk of flooding, and the potential negative effects on the water environment including the impact of wastewater.

- Other National Policies, Plans and Programmes - Please see our suggested minor amendments below.
- 'Climate Change Act 2008' could be amended to: 'Climate Change Act (2008) and Climate Change Act 2009 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019'
- 'UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017' – An updated assessment was issued in 2022: UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 - (www.gov.uk)
- 'Water Environment Regulations 2017' could be updated to 'Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017'
- In addition to the above suggested changes, the Environment Agency consider the following PPPs to be relevant to the SA and Local Plan. Where relevant, we have also provided comments to the 'Implications for the Local Plan and SA'.
- Climate change adaption and mitigation, Energy Efficiency and Waste Minimisation - The Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Sources Regulations 2011, Net Zero – The UK's contribution to stopping global warming (Climate Change Committee, 2019), Sixth Carbon Budget (Climate Change Committee, 2020), National Infrastructure Strategy: Fairer, faster greener (2020) and The Environmental Improvement Plan (2025).
- We welcome that this section includes the Environment Act (2021). This Act is relevant to various topic areas and has therefore been referenced in the relevant topic areas below. We recommend that 'the implications for the Local Plan and SA' for climate change is strengthened to 'avoid areas at risk of flooding'.

- Health and Well-being - The Environment Act 2021, The State of the Environment: Health, People and the Environment (Environment Agency, 2021), Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England, 2023)
- Environment (biodiversity/geodiversity, landscape and soils) - The Environmental Improvement Plan (2025), The Environment Act 2021, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations 2015, Working with nature (Environment Agency, 2022) and National Quality Mark Scheme for Land Contamination Management (NQMS).
- Water and air - Environment Act 2021, Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations 2015, Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, Flood Risk Regulations 2009, Drought response: our framework for England (Environment Agency, 2017), Meeting our future water needs: a national framework for water resources (Environment Agency, 2020), The Environment Agency's Approach for Groundwater Protection (2018) and National Chalk Streams Strategy Chalk Stream Strategy (2021).
- Further to these additional plans, we recommend that ‘the implications for the Local Plan and SA’ for Water and Air is expanded to recognise the importance of these matters. Whilst it refers to minimising the contamination of water and air, and notes the effective management of waste and water, we believe this could go further. Significantly, whilst it notes that the SA will respond to water quality and waste management, it does not acknowledge the availability of water resources which is a significant issue in the area. The availability of water resources will continue to be a challenge because of climate change, alongside other pressures such as protecting habitats and sites of importance for biodiversity, supporting growth, local industry and other commercial or visitor-based opportunities.
    - Noted. Paragraph 2.18 has been removed to ensure there is no duplication of text. The review of plans, policies and programmes (Chapter 3 and Appendix B in this SA report) has been updated to address these points.
- Economic Growth - Whilst we acknowledge paragraph 2.39 which states that ‘there will be some overlap between SA topics covered by these plans and programmes…’, it is important that the environment is not siloed and is considered across the various policies in the Local Plan; taking a natural capital approach considers the value of the natural environment for people and the economy. Information on taking a natural capital approach is

included in The Green Book (HM Treasury, 2022). The Defra Accounting for the Effects of Climate Change provides supplementary guidance to the HMT Green Book. It is designed to support policy makers identify how their proposals can be affected by climate risks and how to design adaptation measures in response. Another resource on the economics to nature is the 'Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review' (2021).

  - Noted.

- Transport - To encourage walking and cycling, consideration should also be given to the role of green and blue infrastructure in connecting people with nature and providing opportunities to address health and wellbeing. Green and blue spaces/corridors can support active lifestyles, community cohesion and improve quality of life, alongside the multiple environmental benefits such as reducing urban heat stress, flood risk and improving air quality. We recommend this section includes the Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England, 2023) which sets out the principles and standards for England, alongside their mapping resource.

  - The Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England, 2023) has been added to the review of plans, policies and programmes in this SA report.

- Appendix A - We suggest the inclusion of the following recent international agreements on biodiversity and climate change, which set the objectives and principles for each nation to follow.

- Convention on Biological Diversity – Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity framework (UN Biodiversity Conference - COP 15, 2022)

- The Glasgow Pact (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2021)

- Sub national plans and programmes - We support the Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (A.115); however, it is not clear that this is an Anglian Water plan. We therefore recommend you include a reference to Anglian Water. The inclusion of the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy is also welcome (A.116). Paragraph 3.86 in Chapter 3 gives further context that the new tidal flood risk management strategy (Humber 2100+) is currently being developed in partnership (with NELC and other Humber local authorities) and includes the key aspects and a reference (80) linking to the project Story Map. The Humber 2100+ partnership recognises that to 'address flood risk and enable sustainable growth now and for the next 100', that a new approach to managing flood risk will be needed. The new Humber 2100+ strategy will agree this

approach. It will be important that the new NELC local plan aligns and supports Humber 2100+.

- We welcome the reference to the Humber River Basin District River Management Plan 2016 (A.117). However, this document was updated in December 2022 providing an up to date position: Humber River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan 2021 to 2027. The reference list should also be updated to reflect this.
- We recommend including the following additional sub national plans and programmes: The Drought Plan (Anglian Water, 2022), The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England (Water Resources East, 2022), Draft Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (Anglian Water, 2022), Grimsby, Ancholme and Louth abstraction licencing strategy (Environment Agency, 2020) and Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Strategic Action Plan (Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project, 2019). For further information on Lincolnshire Chalk Stream project, we recommend viewing: Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project | Helping Lincolnshire's Chalk Streams Flow.
- Paragraph A.122 refers to the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2011-2020. This content will be superseded by a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Whilst guidance on completing these has yet to be issued, some work has been undertaken by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership to prepare for this, including proposed targets: Nature Strategy 2020.pdf (glnp.org.uk). Therefore, this section should recognise the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy that will be produced for Lincolnshire. Whilst it is at an early stage, this will be produced alongside the Local Plan and should be recognised in the SA process. In addition, we suggest the sub national PPPs includes the latest Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study. Please see further comments related to the production of a Water Cycle Study in the subsequent section (baseline information).
    - These international plans have been added to the review of plans, policies and programmes in this SA report. The suggested changes have been made to the sub national plans and programmes in Appendix B. Reference to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy has been included in Appendix B. The latest SFRA has been added to Appendix B under the sub-national review of plans and programmes.
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation - Paragraph 3.4 helpfully sets out some of the risks to North East Lincolnshire, including more extreme weather events which will result in higher sea levels and increased river

flooding. Whilst paragraph 3.4 correctly identifies that 'A key challenge in protecting the environment will be to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change', this challenge also relates to society and the economy which the SA of the Local Plan should recognise. We also recommend this paragraph includes greater emphasis on flooding, people, and property; planning forms an essential foundation to respond to these challenges. In subsequent paragraphs, it clearly sets out information on carbon budgets to meet net zero targets, including the work undertaken by the Tyndall Centre which calculated the Council's contribution and the recommendations to help meet net zero targets. The Environment Agency supports this information and recognises the importance of having that baseline data. We welcome that this document refers to the Council's ambition to cut carbon emissions to net zero by 2040 and to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. We also support the reference to the Council's Carbon Roadmap. The workstreams identified in the Roadmap will be integral to the policy approach taken in the Local Plan, including low carbon transport which it suggests will be achieved partially through policy change, low carbon industry to achieve industrial decarbonisation, and enabling low carbon homes through the Council's planning and policy-making function. Following the initial 'Climate Change' section, it includes the following sub-headings: 'Carbon Dioxide Emissions', 'Overall Energy Consumption', 'Renewable Energy' and 'Air Quality'. At present there is limited information or data related to water resources and flood risk in connection to climate change. Whilst we recognise that flood risk is captured later in this document, we suggest that flood risk should be included within the 'Land and Water Resources' section, as well as the 'Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation' section. It is important to differentiate between the current risks and the appropriate land use for development, as well as setting out an approach to tackle flood risk which would result as an impact of climate change. Further information is set out below to clarify what information we would suggest in each section.

- Flood risk within Climate Change: this is about making our current properties and businesses resilient to the future impacts of climate change from surface water and fluvial flood risk, and risk related to sea level rise. Whilst the climate change section acknowledges the increasing flood risk, we suggest this is expanded. Additional data is also available on climate change allowances for peak river flows in England by river basin districts.
- Flood risk within Land and Water Resources: This is about protecting areas which are known to store water where there is flooding, or known flood risk, and to identify opportunities available to create open spaces

which will help to reduce flood risk and provide other benefits, including biodiversity improvements. The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the overarching approach to steer new development towards areas with the lowest probability of flooding, as well as drawing in information from the SFRA.

- We also recommend that information on water resource availability is recognised in the 'Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation' section as well as the 'Land and Water Resources' section to recognise the current and future challenges, which evidence suggests will be exacerbated by climate change. The sub-section on 'Renewable Energy' highlights the importance of North East Lincolnshire in the transition to renewable energy, where paragraph 3.5 touches on proposed developments, such as the Humber Zero Carbon Capture Project; it states that this type of development will significantly increase demand for skilled workers. In addition, it should be noted that the development and deployment of new technologies and associated infrastructure, including Carbon Capture Storage, transportation of carbon, and hydrogen production, needs to be climate resilient, considering the wider impacts, including water resources and flood risk. As set out in our response to the Scope and Issues consultation, the Environment Agency are working with the former Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to better understand the environmental constraints to the decarbonisation of the Humber Industrial Cluster, including water resource requirements, air quality, flood risk and water quality.
  - A section on flood risk has been added to climate change adaptation and mitigation within Appendix C which includes detail on being resilient to the future impacts of climate change and the increasing risk from flooding.
- Population, Health and Wellbeing - We support the inclusion of open space and the recognition that it can make a significant contribution towards physical health and wellbeing. This section should include information on the relevant green and blue infrastructure networks in North East Lincolnshire. Green and blue infrastructure, which is made up of natural assets and green/blue corridors, provides important connections between places and can help achieve multiple benefits, including opportunities for increased physical activity, a space for wellbeing and a place to connect, as well as providing environmental benefits such as providing resilience against climate impacts, including flooding and overheating. We recommend that green and blue infrastructure is integrated along transport corridors where possible to maximise

opportunities. We recommend that the Council reviews the Green Infrastructure map produced by Natural England which shows the various types of Green and Blue Infrastructure, and includes Access to Natural Greenspace Standards and spatial analysis of inequalities in access to green space. This data will benefit evidence or background work into access to open space, as suggested in paragraph 3.48.

  - Additional text on green and blue infrastructure has been included within Appendix C.

- Economy - Paragraph 3.60 recognises the positive impacts that wind farms are having to the local economy. This section could recognise the broader role of the low carbon and renewable energy industry, including forthcoming decarbonisation projects in North East Lincolnshire.

  - Additional information has been included on low carbon and renewable energy industry has been included in Appendix C.

- Transport - As set out above in response to the 'Population, Health and Wellbeing' section, we recommend this section refers to relevant green and blue infrastructure corridors.

  - Additional information has been included on active travel in Appendix C.

- Water - We welcome that this section acknowledges the Humber River Basin District (RBD) and the associated River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) 2015. Please note, that the management issues identified within paragraph 3.76 are sourced from the 2015 RBMP. As identified above, this was updated in 2022. As such the paragraph should be reviewed and updated as appropriate. We support paragraph 3.77 which acknowledges one of the aims of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) to achieve high or good status for surface water by 2027. We welcome the subsequent list which provides the current ecological and chemical status across the catchments in North East Lincolnshire. This paragraph could also refer to the requirement to ensure 'no deterioration' in water bodies as a result of new development. Please note, new Water Framework Directive classification data is due to be published shortly; this will supersede the current data. We are pleased to see that paragraph 3.80 identifies that a large area of North East Lincolnshire is designated as a Groundwater Source Protection Zone (SPZ). It is important that the SA of the Local Plan can help steer high risk development away from SPZs. This includes proposals that have the potential to release hazardous substances to the ground, involve effluent discharge to the ground or will physically disturb an aquifer. The Scoping Report could include a map to visually illustrate

the extent of the SPZs in North East Lincolnshire and the bordering area, where appropriate.

- We are pleased that paragraph 3.81 refers to the Anglian Water Plan that identifies serious water stress in its region. We can confirm that the local authority is a serious water stressed area: Water stressed areas – 2021 classification - GOV.UK. In addition the Grimsby, Ancholme and Louth abstraction licencing strategy shows that water is not available for licensing in this area. The SA should take this into account when evaluating policy options and site allocations with a view of minimising the demand on water resources where possible. For example, we would recommend that the plan should require new dwellings, at the minimum, meet the Building Regulation optional higher water efficiency standard of 110 litres per person per day, as set out in building regulations part G2. This standard would help minimise the risk of shortages as an anticipated effect of climate change. Furthermore, the Local Plan should set the policy approach to ensure appropriate measures to reduce water use in non-residential development can be accomplished. Water supply must be addressed in the baseline information and key sustainability issues. In addition, we suggest the following information and resources are considered in the water section to enhance the baseline data and the effectiveness of the SA of the Plan.
- First, the SA should recognise that there are chalk streams in the area that may have additional sensitivities. Second, as set out in the Environment Agency's response to the Scope and Issues consultation, we encourage that a Water Cycle Study is undertaken to support the evidence base on water related matters to support the SA of the plan. The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) on water supply, wastewater, and water quality states that a water cycle study can help you plan for sustainable growth and can provide evidence to ensure the Local Plan is sound. Finally, we recommend viewing the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan which produced a Water Study. The report focusses on water as a key resource required for the decarbonisation of the Humber Industrial Cluster, which should be considered in parallel to plans to reduce emissions. Whilst this study goes into the technical details, the early part of the document provides a helpful overview and useful background information on water. The above suggestions will help achieve some of the opportunities identified in paragraph 2.30.
    - Additional information has been included in Appendix C on the Humber River Basin District River Basin Management Plan 2022; deterioration of water bodies; water supply; availability of water; chalk streams; and

Humber Industrial Cluster Plan. The Source Protection Zones have been included in a new figure (Figure C.6: Source Protection Zones).

- Flood Risk - We welcome the flood risk sub-section which acknowledges the current risk of flooding in the area, whilst acknowledging the climate related risk. Paragraph 3.83 indicates that "The coastline of North East Lincolnshire is protected by way of a sea wall maintained by the Environment Agency". This is not an accurate description. We suggest additional context is provided to correct this: 'The coastline is protected by a combination of engineered sea walls, earth embankments, dune systems and engineered high ground, with a small number of associated flood gates and outfalls to drain land into the Humber estuary. A variety of organisations maintain these assets, including the Environment Agency, North-east Lincolnshire Council, Port authorities and other private third parties.'
- We are pleased that this section identifies the various sources of flooding, considering tidal, fluvial, surface water and groundwater flood risk. It is vital that the SA of the plan recognises and assesses options for policy and allocations, considering all types of flood risk impacting the area now and in the future. To ensure that flooding from all sources is considered, please see the following suggestions for additional baseline information: risk of flooding from surface water maps; maps showing susceptibility to groundwater; extent of flooding from reservoirs; and, residual risk. Please note, the Environment Agency hazard mapping provides visual data on residual flood risk; this could be beneficial to further define the risk in addition to Flood Zones 2 & 3 (figure 3.6). Please consult the Environment Agency for further information. It may also be beneficial to review Section 19 investigations where specific flooding incidents have been reported and investigated. These can be viewed here Flood investigations – Lincolnshire County Council. However, there are no specific flooding incidents recorded on this site in North East Lincolnshire at present.
  - Text in paragraph 3.83 has been updated. Additional information on risk of Flooding from Surface Water, flooding from reservoirs and residual flood risk has been included within Appendix C.
- Waste - Paragraph 3.102 refers to Ryepower incineration plant. Please note, Ryepower do not operate an incinerator, which is PAPREC Energies Grimsby Operations Ltd.
  - The name of the incineration plant has been changed within Appendix C.

- Biodiversity - We welcome that this section recognises the broad range of designated and non-designated sites across North East Lincolnshire, ranging from the internationally important sites such as the Special Area of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Area (SPAs), to the locally important sites such as Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites. We are pleased that paragraph 3.105 recognises that 'the parts of the estuary covered by the SSSI that fall within North East Lincolnshire are predominantly in 'unfavourable recovering' condition'. This is an issue that the Local Plan and the SA of the plan can look to address, to support opportunities to improve the condition of the SSSIs. To enhance the current baseline information for biodiversity, please consider the following: recognise the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategies; key data from the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2011-2020; recommend that the baseline refers to chalk streams which are priority habitats; and, include reference to the network of green and blue infrastructure.
- Protecting and enhancing green and blue Infrastructure should form an integral part of the Local Plan. It is important when reviewing the policy approach to green and blue infrastructure (GBI) that it includes river corridors and their floodplains alongside the network of wildlife habitats and open spaces. GBI provides multiple benefits to nature and the surrounding environment, including promoting the infiltration of surface water drainage to help recharge groundwater. Please see the link to the Natural England's Green Infrastructure map in our response to the Population, Health, and Wellbeing section, which illustrates the various GBI assets. For information related to BNG, CIRIA (2019) produced the following practical guide: Biodiversity net gain. Good practice principles for development.
    - Additional information has been included on Local Nature Recovery Strategies; chalk streams; and green and blue infrastructure within Appendix C.
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation - it is not clear where it states 'managing the effects' on page 101 whether it covers climate mitigation such as a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, as well as adaptation. We suggest this sub-section is expanded to highlight the key issues expected to impact North East Lincolnshire, such as increasing flood risk and the availability of water resources. Without an up-to-date local plan, it is less likely that the area will achieve its net zero ambitions through mitigation and adaptation. Other factors could be highlighted, such as the role of the transport sector to reduce emissions and the role the Local Plan has to promote the required local infrastructure improvements. Climate

change adaptation strategies should link with Local Nature Recovery Strategies.

- It could highlight the opportunity for the Local Plan to prioritise nature-based solutions (NBS) for climate change adaptation. NBS provide multiple benefits, including helping to prevent further nature loss and provide resilience against climate impacts such as sea-level rise, flooding, and overheating. This approach is strongly advocated in the Environmental Improvement Plan and can additionally support nature recovery outcomes. The integration of NBS into development is an important mechanism to incorporate green and blue infrastructure into places for climate mitigation, such as carbon offsetting where net zero ambitions cannot be met on site.
- It is worth noting that there is a legal duty for local planning authorities as set out in Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Planning Act 2008, to ensure that, taken as a whole, development plan documents include policies that contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to climate change. Therefore, this provides a strong legal framework to ensure climate change is addressed in an up-to-date Local Plan. Furthermore, we have recommended the SA includes the government's 'Environmental Improvement Plan' which was published in January 2023. It is worth noting that on page 193 it states that 'whilst we aim to limit global warming to 1.5°C, evidence shows that we must be prepared for warming up to 4°C', emphasising the importance of climate change adaptation measures in policy-making.
- Land and Water Resources - For clarity, we recommend the title of this sub-section is updated to 'Land and Water' to take a broader approach and better represent the range of issues related to water. We agree that without a Local Plan, it could lead to poor quality of surface water. We recommend that this point is expanded to identify some of the key sources of pollution which would lead to poor water quality in the area. For example, the Local Plan and the SA can ensure there is sufficient sewage and drainage infrastructure to meet the development demands, and to ensure measures are in place to prevent potentially polluting uses in SPZs. This section also makes no reference to the WFD and the failed chemical status and moderate ecological status. The Catchment Data Explorer should be reviewed to identify the key challenges preventing the waters reaching good status. The Local Plan should consider opportunities to address these challenges. It states that the Local Plan 'offers an opportunity to contribute further to mitigate the potential effects of any

flooding.' This should be expanded to ensure there is no increase in flood risk.

- Water resource availability is not recognised as a sustainability issue in this section. Water resources would be under more pressure without a review of the Local Plan and should therefore be recognised as a sustainability issue. It is important that the availability of water is considered in all matters, from supporting population growth and industry, to supporting wildlife and habitats. The public water supply in this area has been under pressure, impacting some of the watercourses, particularly Laceby Beck. The Abstraction Licence Strategy states there can be no new groundwater abstraction in this area.
- Waste - This section should make it clear that the Local Plan will drive waste up the waste hierarchy and facilitate a more circular economy in accordance with the Waste Regulations and the National Planning Policy for Waste (2014).
- Biodiversity - Whilst we agree that development and growth are key sustainability challenges to achieve objectives for biodiversity and natural assets, the Local Plan can make a positive contribution to directly benefit biodiversity outcomes, for example, access to nature is included under the 'Population, Health and Wellbeing' heading on page 102. The SA of the Plan can ensure that the environment is imbedded into the policy approach, integrating green and blue infrastructure and other forms of nature-based solutions into new development, as well as setting the principles for existing communities. Furthermore, the baseline data identified that most of the SSSIs are in 'unfavourable recovering' condition and that only 22% of Local Wildlife Sites were positively managed during 2021-22. This data could provide a more focussed approach to identify the key sustainability issues for the SA of the Plan.
    - Noted. The key sustainability issues and likely evolution without the plan in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation; land and water; waste; and, biodiversity has been updated in Chapter 3. Reference to the Environmental Improvement Plan has been included within the review of the plans and programmes within Chapter 3 and Appendix B.
- SA Objective 1 could be amended to commit to building resilience against the impacts of climate change. The first appraisal question is not clear from which point it is asking 'will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions' from. We assume this is from the current position, or as set out in the baseline data, which in that case, we suggest amending this question to

'Will it reduce current greenhouse gas emissions…' However, this could go further to link to the recommendations made through the Tyndall Centre work, or align with the Council's ambitions to become net zero, for example 'will it reduce current greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources in line with XXX?' Whilst we support having a question dedicated to both mitigation and adaptation, the general approach could miss opportunities to address the broad range of issues related to climate change. Therefore, the appraisal questions could be further developed to ask more specific questions. Please see the Environment Agency's suggested appraisal questions for Objective 1 below, and subsequently below each objective heading.

- Will it increase energy from low or zero carbon sources?
- Will it reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
- Will it reduce emissions from transportation?
- Will it promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?
- Will it assess the additional risk of flooding associated with climate change?
- Will it enhance and/or extend green and blue infrastructure networks to support climate adaptation?
- Will it ensure development reduces water use and responds to the availability of water resources?
- Will it encourage nature-based solutions?
    - Noted. The appraisal questions for SA1 have been updated in relation to reducing energy consumption and emissions; increasing energy use from renewable sources; enhancing green/blue infrastructure; and encouraging nature-based solutions. Some of the suggested appraisal questions were not added for the following reasons:
    - Promoting the use of sustainable modes of transport is already assessed under SA15: Promote sustainable transport use. Flood risk is already assessed under SA objective 9: Reduce the risk of flooding on people, property and the natural environment. The efficient use of water is already assessed under SA objective 6: Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources.
- SA2 - Will it support the remediation of contaminated land?

  - Noted. The appraisal questions for SA2 have now been updated to consider contaminated land.
- SA4 - Please see our suggested minor amendments to the proposed appraisal questions (page 108).
- Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species and habitats?
- Will it preserve/enhance open watercourses and aquatic habitats?
- Will it increase the provision of and access to green and blue infrastructure?
- Will it encourage the development of new biodiversity assets and extend linkages to existing habitats within/alongside development?
- In addition, please consider including the following appraisal questions:
- Will it protect species during the construction phases of new development?
- Will it support the provision of a net gain in biodiversity?
- Will it increase the resilience of North East Lincolnshire's biodiversity considering the effects of climate change?
- Will it improve the connectivity between habitats?
- Will it contribute to the Lincolnshire LNRS?
  - Noted. The appraisal questions for SA4 have now been updated to further consider habitats and blue infrastructure.
- SA5 - We agree with the appraisal question 'Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?'. For clarity, it would be beneficial that the 'key pollutants' are identified in the baseline data and/or the key sustainability issues. As written, air quality is not identified as a sustainability issue (chapter 4) for the SA of the Local Plan.
  - Noted. Air quality has been identified as a key sustainability issue within Chapter 3 of this SA Report.
- SA6 - Will it increase the resilience of North East Lincolnshire's water resources to consider the implications of climate change on water supply? Will it encourage enhancements to green and blue infrastructure to support water supply?
  - Noted. The appraisal questions for SA objective 6 have now been updated to assess water resources and supply.

- SA8 - We suggest further consideration is given to this objective which currently only includes one broad appraisal question. We have provided some suggestions below.
- Will it reduce the likelihood of pollution to watercourses from identified sources, such as housing development in construction phases, industry, transport runoff and agriculture?
- Will it minimise the threat to water supply and poor water quality on species and habitats?
- Will it support efficient use of water in new developments?
- Will it protect surface and groundwater quality?
- Will it contribute to improvements in the WFD status of a surface water body?
    - Noted. The appraisal questions for SA objective 8 have now been updated to assess reducing pollution levels and improvements to WFD status. The impact on species and habitats is considered under SA4: Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment. In addition, the efficient use of water is dealt with under SA objective 6: Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources.
- SA9 - We support the inclusion of a flood risk objective, however we do not support the phrase ‘reduce the impact’ of flooding. This could suggest that flood risk will be increased, and as such, the impact of this needs to be reduced rather than ensuring no increase or a reduction in flood risk. We therefore suggest this is reworded to ‘Reduce the risk of flooding on people, property and the natural environment’. Please see our suggested minor amendment to the proposed appraisal question (page 111)
- Will it ensure no new inappropriate developments in the flood plain relevant Flood Zones?
- In addition, please see the following additional questions for your consideration:
- Will it increase the resilience of existing development and communities?
- Will it promote opportunities to support flood resilient places to reduce the risk of flood damage to properties and speed up the recovery after flooding?
- Will it encourage natural flood management schemes?

- We note the final question related to SuDS – this should be reviewed, and where required amended, to ensure it aligns with the latest legislation which is expected to make SuDS a mandatory requirement for development.
  - Noted. SA9 and the appraisal questions have been updated in relation to flood management and resilience. The appraisal question relating to SuDs will be reviewed and updated when SuDs are made mandatory for all new developments.
- SA10 and 11 - We suggest the objectives related to health and wellbeing include a question to ensure that the Plan will address access to green and blue spaces.
  - Noted. SA11 has been updated to include an appraisal question on addressing access to green and blue spaces.
- SA15 - Will it improve connections to green and blue infrastructure?, Will it improve public safety and confidence in cycling as a mode of transport?
  - Noted. SA15 has been updated to include appraisal questions on improving connections to green/blue infrastructure and cycling.
- SA1 - Paragraph B.5 sets out that the location of development will not affect the achievement of this objective. We agree that whilst sustainable modes of transport and flood risk are vital in climate change mitigation and adaptation, we are largely happy that these matters will be addressed in their respective SA objectives. However, minimising the need for carbon-intensive flood defences should be considered in the site assessment process. Likewise, development should consider water resource infrastructure, to avoid the need for carbon intensive solutions where possible, such as pumped water supplies. Furthermore, there are other matters that all development site options should consider to achieve SA objective 1. This includes the location of essential infrastructure other than transport, including foul drainage infrastructure, looking at the distance to existing water recycling centres, whilst considering capacity levels to support the proposed allocations through engagement with the relevant water companies.
  - It is recognised that climate change and carbon missions are cross cutting topics, which are linked to a number of other SA objectives. The likely effects of site options in relation to flood risk are assessed under SA9 and effects on water consumption are considered under SA6. Considering these issues under SA1 as well would result in double counting of these effects. The site assessment criteria are designed to

enable numerous site options to be appraised consistently, so are based on spatial data. The assumptions recognise that factors such design will also affect the achievement of this objective, but these cannot be assessed spatially.

- SA4 - The criteria currently suggests that if a development is over 1km from an internationally or nationally designated biodiversity site, they could have a negligible effect. Due to the fluidity of the water environment, it is possible that development could have a wider impact on water quality in the SPA and SAC, outside the 1km radius. For example, where they are served by sewage catchments that have continuous and intermittent sewage discharges directly upstream of, or directly into the SPA. We therefore recommend additional assessment criteria to consider the proximity to the main water bodies to ensure that the water environment forms a part of the assessment process for biodiversity. We welcome that paragraph B.13 proposes to assess existing green infrastructure (GI) assets. We support that where development would result in a loss to these assets, it would be categorised to have a 'significant negative effect'. We note that this paragraph acknowledges the uncertainty with the assessment of GI and that it may be possible to conserve or enhance assets through the design of a development, but we recommend including the positive effects of development being located near or adjacent to existing green and blue infrastructure assets, for example to acknowledge the ability for sites to connect to, or to enhance GBI.
  - Noted. The assessment criteria for SA4 have now been updated to involve assessing whether site options are within the Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) for international and nationally designated sites, rather than effects being determined on the basis of distance alone. The likely effects of site allocations in the Local Plan on water quality at European sites will be considered through the HRA, the findings of which will be taken into account in the SA. The assessment criteria for SA objective 4 have also been updated to identify potential positive effects where sites are close to existing green and blue infrastructure assets, where connectivity may be achieved.
- SA6 - Whilst at the site allocation stage it may not be possible to determine the level of water required in the lifetime of the development, when the Council receives a development proposal, it is essential that the policy sets clear requirements to assess the availability of water, and how the development will approach water resources to reduce usage through the construction phases and for future occupants. In addition, this site assessment criteria could assess whether allocations are within Source

Protection Zones. Water Cycle Studies will provide the evidence base to support the approach to policies and site allocations with regards to water related matters, including water availability which can inform the SA of the Local Plan.

- Noted. The assessment criteria for SA8 (water quality) have now been updated to consider proximity to source protection zones as well as watercourses.

- SA8 - We note that paragraph B.18 states that the effects of development on water quality 'cannot be determined at this stage'. We therefore welcome continued communication with the Council to ensure that any proposed site allocations are appropriately assessed, and that we have the opportunity to provide comments.
  - Noted. The assessment criteria for this objective have now been updated to consider proximity to source protection zones and watercourses.
- SA Objective 9 - We note that the first criterion states that site options either entirely or significantly within Flood Zone 3 will have a significant negative impact; we would like to highlight that there may be potential implications for this approach, for example, less vulnerable development can be located within flood zone 3a, provided that it has met all of the policy requirements and provides the relevant mitigation to ensure that the site remains safe for the lifetime of the development (including floodplain compensation, if required). In addition, the proposed assessment criteria do not differentiate between flood zone 3a and 3b, nor does it state that the developable areas will be located outside of flood zones 3b (functional floodplain) or 3a (depending on the vulnerability classification of the development). We therefore suggest that the rating system is based on the vulnerability classifications and their corresponding Flood Zones as this would remove any ambiguity.
- It is important that when assessing site allocations, the sequential test and sequential approach to locating development should be applied at the earliest possible stage of the planning process; this process will consider the relevant Flood Zones and vulnerability classifications. This is important because development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided. Development should be appropriate to the Flood Zone to which it is located; this document does not currently take account of the Sequential Test and Exceptions Test which should be addressed. Furthermore, we note that the Site Assessment Criteria and Assumptions focus on Flood Zones and surface water only. Whilst these are integral to the assessment

of sites, consideration should be given to flood risk from all sources (including groundwater, reservoir) as well as residual flood risk (from overtopping and breach) which can be assessed through hazard mapping. Whilst we note that North East Lincolnshire has previously steered most development to the areas at lowest risk of flooding (Flood Zone 1) which we strongly support and recommend continues, if development is deemed necessary within higher risk areas, hazard mapping should be reviewed to further define the risk (from coastal flooding); please consult the Environment Agency at your earliest opportunity where appropriate.

- Noted. GIS data is not available to differentiate between Flood Zones 3a and 3b – this has been identified as a data limitation in this SA report. Through the site appraisals, consideration will be given to groundwater problems, reservoirs and hazard mapping where available. The Council are continuing their stance of no housing development on greenfield sites that are at risk of flooding.

- We have referred to Green and Blue Infrastructure throughout our response. We note it has not currently been captured in the baseline information but has been included within Chapters 4 and 5. Furthermore, we note that this document refers to mitigating and reducing flood risk in various sections which is welcome. Please make sure it is clear that there should be no increase in flood risk as a result of development. The RTPI produced a guide for climate action tools which can be used in plan-making and development management which we would recommend viewing - RTPI | RTPI launches ‘invaluable’ guide to climate action tools. This helpfully sets out tools available specifically related to adaptation and mitigation which could be useful in the early stages of the plan-making process and SA of the plan.

  - Noted.

SA (Regulation 18 stage) (December 2023)

Natural England

- Natural England has not reviewed all the plans listed; however, it appears that the policy context is generally suitable. Natural England generally agrees that the data within the Summary of Current Baseline Information is factually correct, relevant, and suitable for the Plan.
  - Noted.
- As set out in PPG, your authority should be monitoring the significant environmental effects of implementing the current Local Plan. This should include indicators for monitoring the effects of the Plan on biodiversity. It is important that any monitoring indicators relate to the effects of the Plan itself, not wider changes. Bespoke indicators should be chosen relating to the outcomes of development management decisions.

  Whilst it is not Natural England's role to prescribe what indicators should be adopted, the following indicators may be appropriate:

1. Number of planning approvals that generated any adverse impacts on sites of acknowledged biodiversity importance.
2. Percentage of major developments generating overall biodiversity enhancement.
3. Hectares of biodiversity habitat delivered through strategic site allocations.
4. Number of planning approvals incorporating SuDS/other Nature Based Solutions.

- Noted. As part of the Reg 19 stage, the Monitoring Framework will be reviewed and updated. The suggested monitoring indicators will be considered for inclusion within the Monitoring Framework.

- It should be clear how the SA has informed and provided justification for the sites selected for allocation assessed against reasonable alternatives. Recommendations and findings from the assessments should also be used to inform mitigation measures and design principles for the allocated sites.

- Noted. The SA appraisal of site options has been undertaken prior to the Council selecting sites for allocation. This has allowed the Council to use the SA appraisal of the site options to inform their decisions on the allocation of sites.

Brad Stott on behalf of Cyden Homes Ltd

- In the SA, the site HOU068B scored 'significant negative effect' when assessed against SA2 (Efficient use of land), SA3 (Cultural Heritage) and SA17 (Landscape) and 'Minor negative impact likely' on SA6 (Resources) and SA8 (Water).
- HOU068B received a significantly negative rating for SA2, simply because it is not previously developed land and it has this in common with many of the proposed allocations in the plan so this cannot be considered a barrier to its allocation. It remains a viable option for housing development. The housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum (HEDNA, 2023) underscores the urgent need for housing provision, making the utilisation of this land essential. Moreover, the near completion of nearby sites under construction indicates that HOU068B could effectively contribute to meeting this need.
- Whilst the site is considered to have a significant negative impact on cultural heritage (SA3), HOU068B is free from any statutory historical constraints, the nearest heritage asset is 400 meters North West. This is a Grade II listed building. The impact of the development of site HOU068B on this heritage asset is expected to be minimal. HOU068B potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development.
- SA17 relates to maintaining and enhancing landscape, however it is essential to weigh various factors and explore mitigation strategies. Site HOU068B is currently undeveloped, implying that any landscape impact would result from development itself. The site's proximity to the proposed boundary for GW3, part of the Green Wedge outlined in the plan, is important. Utilizing the site for infill development could create a distinct boundary between the proposed green wedge and residential surroundings. While SA17 raises valid concerns regarding landscape impact, careful consideration of the site's location and potential mitigation measures suggests it could still be a suitable allocation option.

- HOU068B received a minor negative impact rating against SA6, however, when evaluating this impact in the context of the site, it's important to consider several mitigating factors. The site can leverage existing connections to adjoining developments currently under construction, potentially minimising the strain on resources by sharing infrastructure. It is important to note housing developments, regardless of location, inherently impact resources to some extent. Given the pressing need for housing, as highlighted in the HEDNA (2023), with a requirement of 507 dwellings per annum, balancing resource considerations with the imperative for meeting housing need and supporting economic growth is essential. Therefore, while acknowledging the resource-related concerns, the broader socio-economic context needs to be considered.
- In relation to SA8, site HOU068B scored a minor negative impact in the SA. The site's proximity to Laceby Beck necessitates careful consideration of water management strategies. This is roughly 500 meters east of the site. However, this proximity does not inherently disqualify the site from development. With appropriate planning and mitigation measures, potential impacts on water resources can be effectively addressed. Especially considering the development of site HOU066, which is much closer at roughly 200 meters north of Laceby Beck. Therefore, while SA8 may highlight potential challenges, they are manageable through proactive planning and adherence to environmental regulations.
    - For SA3, the site options were appraised using a distance based approach. Any site option that falls within 500m of a heritage asset will be identified as having a significant negative effect. If a Heritage Impact Assessment is available at Regulation 19 stage, then this will be used to assess site options against SA3: Cultural Heritage.
    - If the site continues to be proposed for allocation within the Local Plan, any mitigation included within a site allocation policy will be considered during the appraisal of the site within future iterations of the SA.
    - The intention of the SA is not to disqualify sites but instead to identify the likely significant effects against social, economic and environmental objectives to help the Council in deciding which sites should be allocated in the Local Plan. Ideally the sites with the least negative effects should be considered for allocation, however, the Council will also need to consider other matters such as viability, deliverability and demand.
- HOU365 has been identified as having a significantly negative impact on SA2 simply because it is not previously developed land and it has this in

common with many of the proposed allocations in the plan so this cannot be considered a barrier to its allocation. The housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum (HEDNA, 2023) underscores the urgent need for housing provision, making the utilisation of this land essential. Moreover, the near completion of nearby construction sites indicates that HOU365 could effectively contribute to meeting this demand. Additionally, its adjacency to employment land and existing residential areas further enhances its suitability, as it can help meet local employment needs and promote community integration.

- The SA has identified as having a significantly negative impact on the SA9 criteria which relates to flooding again this negative score appears to solely based on the fact the site is greenfield.
- Additionally, minor negative impacts have been noted for SA3 (cultural heritage), SA8 (water resources), SA17 (landscape), and SA19 (Education). These findings underscore the need for careful consideration and mitigation strategies to address the identified sustainability challenges associated with the development of HOU365.
- Despite being ranked as having a minor negative impact on the SA regarding SA3, the nearest cultural asset is located approximately 700 metres to the east of HOU365. This is a grade II listed building. The impact of this is expected to be minimal. HOU365's potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development.
- HOU365 scored a minor negative effect in relation to SA8. The site's proximity to Buck Beck necessitates careful consideration of water management strategies. However, this proximity does not inherently disqualify the site from development. With appropriate planning and mitigation measures, potential impacts on water resources can be effectively addressed. Therefore, while SA8 may highlight potential challenges, they are manageable through proactive planning and adherence to environmental regulations.
- The site scored a minor negative in relation to SA17. Although HOU365 is part of a suggested Green Wedge (GW8), its designation as such does not preclude its development for housing purposes. The absence of statutory ecological constraints on the site suggests that its impact on the local landscape can be mitigated effectively. Additionally, its location minimises

disruption to nearby Cleethorpes Country Park, ensuring the preservation of important natural areas. Thus, while SA17 raises considerations regarding landscape preservation, they are not insurmountable obstacles to the site's development.

- While SA19 raises concerns about the potential impact of housing development on local education, these concerns do not undermine the suitability of HOU365 for allocation. Despite the inevitable impact of housing development on education infrastructure. The HEDNA (2023) in para 9.29 forecasts a growth rate of 5% in households over the plan period (2022-2042). However, it is noteworthy that the growth of households with dependent.
  - SA9: Flood Risk considers whether the site falls within a Flood Risk Zone and/or an area at risk of surface water flooding. The site option falls within an area at risk of 1 in 30 year and 1 in 100 year surface water flooding event. Therefore, the site has been found to have a significant negative in relation to SA9: Flood Risk.
  - For SA3, the site options were appraised using a distance-based approach. The site is located within 1km of a heritage asset and therefore the site has been found to have a minor negative effect against this SA objective. If a Heritage Impact Assessment is available at Regulation 19 stage, then this will be used to assess site options against SA3: Cultural Heritage.
  - If the site is proposed for allocation within the Local Plan at any point, any mitigation included within a site allocation policy will be considered during the appraisal of the site within future iterations of the SA.
  - The intention of the SA is not to disqualify sites but instead to identify the likely significant effects against a number of social, economic and environmental objectives to help the Council in deciding which sites should be allocated in the Local Plan. Ideally the sites with the least negative effects should be considered for allocation, however, the Council will also need to consider other matters such as viability, deliverability and demand.

Caroline Chave on behalf of Grainsby Farms Ltd

- Grainsby Farms Ltd supports the Council's consideration of housing requirement scenarios above the Standard Method. NPPF guides at para 61 that the outcome of the Standard Method is an advisory starting-point for establishing a housing requirement for the area. Para 67 also guides

that the requirement may be higher than the identified housing need if, for example, it reflects growth ambitions linked to economic development or infrastructure investment.

- The SA says in respect of the Experian Policy On Scenario (507 dwellings per annum) that it could result in a higher level of housing growth compared to economic growth, leading to higher levels of commuting out of North East Lincolnshire for work. However, the risk is that, without a housing requirement as a means to ensure that sufficient housing is delivered, the converse could occur and people could be commuting into North East Lincolnshire for work. The Experian Policy On Scenario uses robust projections for economic growth, based on known projects. Therefore, there should be no significant doubt that this economic growth will be delivered. The impact of not having the right homes in the right place at the right time is that the labour force will need to commute in to fill jobs and this commuting will have transportation impacts and an adverse impact on climate change. Furthermore, the lack of suitable housing will have impacts on housing affordability, due to the supply and demand ratio, and will impact on businesses and projects if an appropriately skilled workforce cannot be attracted to move to the area to fill jobs. While the Local Plan aims to set out a sufficient housing supply to match the Experian Policy On Scenario, without the housing requirement matching this scenario the Local Plan is not effective in ensuring that housing is delivered and action plans put in place as necessary to ensure the housing supply.
- The Local Plan relies on some very significant sites, for example Grimsby West, to deliver housing in the plan period and if delivery on such sites should slip then the Local Plan would lack the rigour to ensure that the supply continues to the necessary level. No detailed housing trajectory has yet been published and, when it is, it is very important that major sites such as Grimsby West are set out in the trajectory on a realistic basis to understand what they can actually deliver within the plan period.
- In summary, it is contended that the Council should follow the recommendations of its own HEDNA and increase the housing requirement (not just the supply) to align with the pursuit of economic growth. Therefore, Scenario G should be chosen, setting a housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum.
    - Noted.
- Grainsby Farms Ltd supports the identification of their land at Waltham (HOU372) for future housing and submits a Feasibility Study by Hodson

Architects in support in order to demonstrate that the site could be developed for 215 dwellings whilst responding appropriately to the opportunities and constraints of the site's environs. Part of site HOU372 has been granted outline planning permission for 9 dwellings (DM/0393/22/OUT and appeal APP/B2002/W/22/3307340). This planning permission is extant and reserved matters applications can be submitted up until 31st March 2026. Therefore, the part of the site subject of outline planning permission should be identified as a consented site.

- The site lies within a wider area where significant development is taking place and already planned. A development of 95 dwellings by Carr & Carr (Builders) Ltd is being undertaken directly opposite the site. Land is also allocated for development in the adopted Local Plan (HOU11 & HOU129) for 230 dwellings on the same side of Cheapside as the site, only 125 metres away from the site. Intervening land is used as a golf driving range, so is in recreational use rather than open countryside. Development also continues on both sides of the road, beyond the site, to the south-east. The site is well related to the existing and planned built-up area of Waltham and its development would make a logical addition to the existing pattern of development.
- The site is approximately 1km from the centre of Waltham where there are a variety of amenities including a primary school, co-op, pharmacy, dentist, post office, leisure/play facilities and a variety of shops, services, eating/drinking and community establishments. Bus stops are located in the village centre with the 9 and 10 bus services providing a connection to Grimsby every 15 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, with reduced services on evenings and Sundays. The site is therefore in a sustainable location where residents living in the new community would have access to services to meet their day-to-day needs.
- The Feasibility Study includes a masterplan proposal which demonstrates that the site is generally free of constraints and presents an opportunity for development which is well integrated with the surrounding built-up area and recreational spaces. The site would bring forward substantial areas of public open space, which would benefit the wider community and create a network of green space, in conjunction with other sites, in this newly developing area of the settlement. The Feasibility Study includes an analysis of the site and views of it from surrounding public vantage points. The analysis considers views of the Grade II listed Waltham Windmill. While the site does not convey views towards the windmill from any public vantage points due to intervening landscape cover and topography, the development of the site offers opportunities to create public vantage points

from which to view the windmill & ndash; in particular, to celebrate a view of the windmill from a new public open space.

- The masterplan proposal is based around a framework of open space and green corridors designed to minimise impact of development by avoiding building on the highest levels of the site; to create a network of sustainable urban drainage features to resolve any surface water flooding; and to create a green corridor walking route through the site to the main area of public open space. The land is currently arable and of low ecological value, so offers potential for biodiversity enhancement to achieve a minimum 10% BNG. The masterplan proposal demonstrates that the site could accommodate a development of approximately 215 dwellings at an average net density of 35 dwellings per hectare, whilst responding to site opportunities and constraints and delivering public open space provision.
- The Feasibility Study demonstrates that development of the land could be accommodated without harmful impact on the landscape, taking into account the topography of the surroundings, landscape cover, available viewpoints and the character of the landscape in the context of the existing urban area.
- The SA finds that the development of the site would have a negligible impact in terms of SA17: Landscape, whereas many other sites would have a minor or significant negative impact, since they would fall within areas with low or medium-low capacity to accommodate development, according to the Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study. The SA also identifies a lesser impact for the site than many others in terms of SA3: Cultural heritage and a significant positive impact in terms of SA16: Housing. This is due to the scale of the site, delivering more than 100 dwellings and therefore making a significant contribution to the housing requirement.
- Overall, the site offers significant benefits as a sustainably located site on the edge of an Arc Settlement, outside of any Green Wedge, and well-integrated with surrounding development on this expanding settlement edge. The site could accommodate 215 dwellings, making a significant contribution towards meeting the housing requirement. It is generally free of constraints and could be developed without significant landscape or heritage impact. The development would incorporate public open space, to contribute to the network of open spaces in the surrounding area and, in particular, to create new public vantage points to appreciate views of the Grade II listed Waltham Windmill and therefore enhance its heritage

significance through greater appreciation of the heritage asset. The site is therefore commended to NELC for a housing allocation.

- Noted.

SA (Second Regulation 18) (November 2025)

Ms Caroline Chave Chave Planning (Grainsby Farms Ltd)

- The SA says in respect of the Experian Policy On Scenario (507 dwellings per annum) that it could result in a higher level of housing growth compared to economic growth, leading to higher levels of commuting out of North East Lincolnshire for work. However, the risk is that, without a housing requirement as a means to ensure that sufficient housing is delivered, the converse could occur and people could be commuting into North East Lincolnshire for work. The Experian Policy On Scenario uses robust projections for economic growth, based on known projects. Therefore, there should be no significant doubt that this economic growth will be delivered. The impact of not having the right homes in the right place at the right time is that the labour force will need to commute in to fill jobs and this commuting will have transportation impacts and an adverse impact on climate change. Furthermore, the lack of suitable housing will have impacts on housing affordability, due to the supply and demand ratio, and will impact on businesses and projects if an appropriately skilled workforce cannot be attracted to move to the area to fill jobs. While the Local Plan aims to set out a sufficient housing supply to match the Experian Policy On Scenario, without the housing requirement matching this scenario the Local Plan is not effective in ensuring that housing is delivered and action plans put in place as necessary to ensure the housing supply.

  - Noted.

HOU372

- Grainsby Farms Ltd is promoting site HOU372 and has reviewed the 2025 SA in respect of the site, noting the following. The SA finds that the development of site HOU372 would have only a minor negative impact in terms of SA Objective 3 ‘Cultural Heritage’, whereas many other sites, including chosen allocations, would have a significant negative effect. It also finds that it would have a negligible impact in terms of SA Objective 17 ‘Landscape’, whereas many other sites, including chosen sites, would

have a minor or significant negative impact, owing to their being located in areas of higher landscape sensitivity.

- The SA finds that the development of the site would have a negligible impact in terms of SA Objective 17 'Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes', whereas many other sites would have a minor or significant negative impact, since they would fall within areas with low or medium-low capacity to accommodate development, according to the Landscape Character Assessment, Sensitivity and Capacity Study. The SA also identifies a lesser impact for the site than many others in terms of SA Objective 3 'Maintain and improve a quality built environment, and preserve heritage assets' and a significant positive impact in terms of SA Objective 16 'Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone'. This is due to the scale of the site, delivering more than 100 dwellings and therefore making a significant contribution to the housing requirement.
  - Noted.
- The SA finds minor negative effects in terms of SA Objective 15 'Sustainable Travel' as it seems the site has been assessed as being in an unsuitable location for development. However, as highlighted in representations in response to the SHLAA, the site is closer to the village core facilities than other sites that have been chosen for allocation. Furthermore, the development would be of a scale (215 dwellings) whereby it could make meaningful s106 contributions towards accessibility and public transport improvements.
  - Noted. The appraisal of site options is a largely distance based approach that also takes into account any evidence base available at the time. In relation to SA Objective 15, site HOU372 was considered in relation to its distance to a railway station, bus stop and cycle route rather than proximity to a village centre. The appraisal is not able to take into account any site specific requirements including mitigation.
- The SA finds significant positive effects in terms of SA Objective 16 'Housing', compared to many other sites with only minor positive effects, because the scale of the development would make a significant contribution to housing supply.
  - Noted.
- Overall, the SA provides no compelling reason why site HOU372 should not be selected as a housing allocation and the representations made by Grainsby Farms Ltd in response to this consultation build upon the suitability of the site for allocation. It is therefore respectfully requested that the SA is reviewed.

- The SA appraisal is only part of the decision making process. The decision on whether to allocate a site also includes a range of other planning matters.

Councillor Dan Humphrey North East Lincolnshire Council

- In this document I was disappointed by the fleeting mention of Neighbourhood Plans and the total exclusion of the fact that some areas locally have commenced explored developed even concluded Community Plans which seem to be an important alternative. In my experience Neighbourhood Plans are more common in more affluent areas so I have been pleased to see an alternative arise in a few local areas particularly East Marsh and Immingham with West Marsh and Sidney Sussex following suit. Yet no mention here?
  - Where available, reference to Community Plans has been included within Chapter 3.
- I found the Biodiversity section really brief without proper explanation of why e.g comparison to other regions.
  - The biodiversity section within the Baseline Information appendix has been reviewed and where possible expanded to include the most up to date information on biodiversity within North East Lincolnshire and wider Lincolnshire as well.
- In terms of the Spatial Housing Distribution Options I was at a disadvantage having not previously read about the 4 options from earlier in the process. I found the summary statement (‘looking across the suite of SA objectives there are no sites that stand out as being overwhelmingly more or less sustainable than other options’) quite disconcerting. I wonder if that is unusual for an exercise like this? It is such a blanket phrase that I wonder how helpful that part of the exercise is?
  - It is not uncommon for no single option to clearly stand out as the most sustainable choice. As the SA considers a wide range of sustainability topics, options often have a wide range of effects, including positive, negative and mixed effects, which must be weighed up.

Mr Brad Stott DLP Planning Ltd (Cyden Homes)

- While strategic sites have the potential to accommodate amenities, it is essential to recognise that smaller sites can also play a vital role in community development. For instance, the original planning permission for

site HOU066 included provisions for affordable housing, public open space, education contributions and highway works. The possibility of incorporating such amenities underscores the significance of smaller-scale developments. With proper Section 106 negotiations, smaller sites can contribute effectively to enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. Meeting the sustainability objectives outlined in the SA (2023) remains achievable through the delivery of smaller sites, provided there are appropriate negotiations under Section 106.

- Noted.

HOU068B

- In the SA (2023) the site HOU068B scored 'significant negative effects likely' when assessed against SA2 (Efficient use of land), SA3 (Cultural Heritage) and SA17 (Landscape) and 'Minor negative impact likely' on SA6 (Resources) and SA8 (Water).
  - Noted.
- HOU068B received a significantly negative rating for efficient land use (SA2), simply because it is not previously developed land and it has this in common with many of the proposed allocations in the plan so this cannot be considered a barrier to its allocation. it remains a viable option for housing development The housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum (HEDNA, 2023) underscores the urgent need for housing provision, making the utilisation of this land essential. Moreover, the near completion of nearby sites under construction indicates that HOU068B could effectively contribute to meeting this need.
  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site and other planning factors.
- Whilst the site is considered to have a significant negative impact on cultural heritage (SA3) HOU068B is free from any statutory historical constraints, the nearest heritage asset is 400 meters North West. This is a Grade II listed building. The impact of the development of site HOU068B on this heritage asset is expected to be minimal. HOU068B potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development.

  - Without the availability of a Heritage Impact Assessment, a largely distance based approach was used in considering the impacts of a site in relation to heritage assets. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.
- SA17 relates to maintaining and enhancing landscape, however it is essential to weigh various factors and explore mitigation strategies. Site HOU068B is currently undeveloped, implying that any landscape impact would result from development itself. The site's proximity to the proposed boundary for GW3, part of the Green Wedge outlined in the plan, is important. Utilizing the site for infill development could create a distinct boundary between the proposed green wedge and residential surroundings. While SA17 raises valid concerns regarding landscape impact, careful consideration of the site's location and potential mitigation measures suggests it could still be a suitable allocation option.
- SA6 relates to resources, including power supply, water and natural minerals. In the SA (2023) HOU068B received a minor negative impact rating against this criterion, however, when evaluating this impact in the context of the site, it's important to consider several mitigating factors. The site can leverage existing connections to adjoining developments currently under construction, potentially minimising the strain on resources by sharing infrastructure. It is also important to note housing developments, regardless of location, inherently impact resources to some extent. Given the pressing need for housing, as highlighted in the HEDNA (2023), with a requirement of 507 dwellings per annum, balancing resource considerations with the imperative for meeting housing need and supporting economic growth is essential. Therefore, while acknowledging the resource-related concerns, the broader socio-economic context needs to be considered.
  - The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

HOU365

- Upon evaluation in the SA, HOU365 has been identified as having a significantly negative impact on SA2 simply because it is not previously

developed land and it has this in common with many of the proposed allocations in the plan so this cannot be considered a barrier to its allocation. The housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum (HEDNA, 2023) underscores the urgent need for housing provision, making the utilisation of this land essential. Moreover, the near completion of nearby construction sites indicates that HOU365 could effectively contribute to meeting this demand. Additionally, its adjacency to employment land and existing residential areas further enhances its suitability, as it can help meet local employment needs and promote community integration.

  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site and other planning factors.

- The SA HOU365 has also identified as having a significantly negative impact on the SA9 criteria which relates to flooding again this negative score appears to solely based on the fact the site is greenfield. Additionally, minor negative impacts have been noted for SA3 (cultural heritage), SA8 (water resources), SA17 (landscape), and SA19 (Education). These findings underscore the need for careful consideration and mitigation strategies to address the identified sustainability challenges associated with the development of HOU365. Despite being ranked as having a minor negative impact on the SA regarding Cultural Heritage (SA3), the nearest cultural asset is located approximately 700 metres to the east of HOU365. This is a grade II listed building. The impact of this is expected to be minimal. HOU365's potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development. SA8 relates to maintaining and improving water quality, against which site HOU365 scored a minor negative impact on the SA. The site's proximity to Buck Beck necessitates careful consideration of water management strategies. However, this proximity does not inherently disqualify the site from development. With appropriate planning and mitigation measures, potential impacts on water resources can be effectively addressed. Therefore, while SA8 may highlight potential challenges, they are manageable through proactive planning and adherence to environmental regulations.
- SA17 relates to maintaining and enhancing landscape against which the site scored a minor negative impact on the SA. Although HOU365 is part

of a suggested Green Wedge (GW8), its designation as such does not preclude its development for housing purposes. The absence of statutory ecological constraints on the site suggests that its impact on the local landscape can be mitigated effectively. Additionally, its location minimises disruption to nearby Cleethorpes Country Park, ensuring the preservation of important natural areas. Thus, while SA17 raises considerations regarding landscape preservation, they are not insurmountable obstacles to the site's development.

  - The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

- While SA19 raises concerns about the potential impact of housing development on local education, these concerns do not undermine the suitability of HOU365 for allocation. Despite the inevitable impact of housing development on education infrastructure. The HEDNA (2023) in paragraph 9.29 forecasts a growth rate of5% in households over the plan period (2022-2042). However, it is noteworthy that the growth of households with dependent.

  - The appraisal of Site HOU365 against SA19 relates to the distance of the site from primary and secondary schools rather than the impact of housing development on education.

Roland Bolton DLP Planning (Cyden Homes)

- While strategic sites have the potential to accommodate amenities, it is essential to recognise that smaller sites can also play a vital role in community development. For instance, the original planning permission for HOU092/HOU147, included provisions for a school, which has not been delivered. However, the possibility of incorporating such amenities underscores the significance of smaller-scale developments. With proper Section 106 negotiations, smaller sites can contribute effectively to enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. Meeting the sustainability objectives outlined in the SA (2023) remains achievable through the delivery of smaller sites, provided there are appropriate negotiations under Section 106.

  - The site options are appraised using a largely distance based approach and therefore whether the role that either a smaller or larger strategic site would play in developing a community is not a consideration. The specific design of the site and what would be

delivered including mitigation is not taken into consideration during the site option appraisal.

HOU365

- The SA HOU365 has also identified as having a significantly negative impact on the SA9 criteria which relates to flooding again this negative score appears to solely based on the fact the site is greenfield.
  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site and other planning factors.
- Additionally, minor negative impacts have been noted for SA3 (cultural heritage), SA8 (water resources), SA17 (landscape), and SA19 (Education). These findings underscore the need for careful consideration and mitigation strategies to address the identified sustainability challenges associated with the development of HOU365. Despite being ranked as having a minor negative impact on the SA regarding Cultural Heritage (SA3), the nearest cultural asset is located approximately 700 metres to the east of HOU365. This is a grade II listed building. The impact of this is expected to be minimal. HOU365's potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development.
- SA8 relates to maintaining and improving water quality, against which site HOU365 scored a minor negative impact on the SA. The site's proximity to Buck Beck necessitates careful consideration of water management strategies. However, this proximity does not inherently disqualify the site from development. With appropriate planning and mitigation measures, potential impacts on water resources can be effectively addressed. Therefore, while SA8 may highlight potential challenges, they are manageable through proactive planning and adherence to environmental regulations.
- SA17 relates to maintaining and enhancing landscape against which the site scored a minor negative impact on the SA. Although HOU365 is part of a suggested Green Wedge (GW8), its designation as such does not preclude its development for housing purposes. The absence of statutory ecological constraints on the site suggests that its impact on the local

landscape can be mitigated effectively. Additionally, its location minimises disruption to nearby Cleethorpes Country Park, ensuring the preservation of important natural areas. Thus, while SA17 raises considerations regarding landscape preservation, they are not insurmountable obstacles to the site's development.

- While SA19 raises concerns about the potential impact of housing development on local education, these concerns do not undermine the suitability of HOU365 for allocation. Despite the inevitable impact of housing development on education infrastructure. The HEDNA (2023) in paragraph 9.29 forecasts a growth rate of 5% in households over the plan period (2022-2042). However, it is noteworthy that the growth of households with dependent.
  - The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.
- While strategic sites have the potential to accommodate amenities, it is essential to recognise that smaller sites can also play a vital role in community development. For instance, the original planning permission for site HOU066 included provisions for affordable housing, public open space, education contributions and highway works. The possibility of incorporating such amenities underscores the significance of smaller-scale developments. With proper Section 106 negotiations, smaller sites can contribute effectively to enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. Meeting the sustainability objectives outlined in the SA (2023) remains achievable through the delivery of smaller sites, provided there are appropriate negotiations under Section 106.
  - The sites options are appraised using a largely distance based approach and therefore whether the role that either a smaller or larger strategic site would play in developing a community is not a consideration. The specific design of the site and what would be delivered including mitigation is not taken into consideration during the site option appraisal.

HOU068B

- In the SA (2023) the site HOU068B scored ‘significant negative effects likely’ when assessed against SA2 (Efficient use of land), SA3 (Cultural Heritage) and SA17 (Landscape) and ‘Minor negative impact likely’ on SA6 (Resources) and SA8 (Water).

- HOU068B received a significantly negative rating for efficient land use (SA2), simply because it is not previously developed land and it has this in common with many of the proposed allocations in the plan so this cannot be considered a barrier to its allocation. it remains a viable option for housing development The housing requirement of 507 dwellings per annum (HEDNA, 2023) underscores the urgent need for housing provision, making the utilisation of this land essential. Moreover, the near completion of nearby sites under construction indicates that HOU068B could effectively contribute to meeting this need.
  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site and other planning factors.
- Whilst the site is considered to have a significant negative impact on cultural heritage (SA3) HOU068B is free from any statutory historical constraints, the nearest heritage asset is 400 meters North West. This is a Grade II listed building. The impact of the development of site HOU068B on this heritage asset is expected to be minimal. HOU068B potential impact on cultural heritage can be adequately addressed through proper design considerations during the planning phase. While respecting and preserving cultural heritage is essential, the proximity to the listed building does not present insurmountable challenges that would preclude the site from being allocated for housing development.
  - Without the availability of a Heritage Impact Assessment, a largely distance based approach was used in considering the impacts of a site in relation to heritage assets. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.
- SA17 relates to maintaining and enhancing landscape, however it is essential to weigh various factors and explore mitigation strategies. Site HOU068B is currently undeveloped, implying that any landscape impact would result from development itself. The site's proximity to the proposed boundary for GW3, part of the Green Wedge outlined in the plan, is important. Utilizing the site for infill development could create a distinct boundary between the proposed green wedge and residential surroundings. While SA17 raises valid concerns regarding landscape impact, careful consideration of the site's location and potential mitigation measures suggests it could still be a suitable allocation option.

- SA6 relates to resources, including power supply, water and natural minerals. In the SA (2023) HOU068B received a minor negative impact rating against this criterion, however, when evaluating this impact in the context of the site, it's important to consider several mitigating factors. The site can leverage existing connections to adjoining developments currently under construction, potentially minimising the strain on resources by sharing infrastructure. It is also important to note housing developments, regardless of location, inherently impact resources to some extent. Given the pressing need for housing, as highlighted in the HEDNA (2023), with a requirement of 507 dwellings per annum, balancing resource considerations with the imperative for meeting housing need and supporting economic growth is essential. Therefore, while acknowledging the resource- related concerns, the broader socio-economic context needs to be considered.
- SA8 relates to maintaining and improving water quality, against which site HOU068B scored a minor negative impact in the SA (2023). The site's proximity to Laceby Beck necessitates careful consideration of water management strategies. This is roughly 500 meters east of the site. However, this proximity does not inherently disqualify the site from development. With appropriate planning and mitigation measures, potential impacts on water resources can be effectively addressed. Especially considering the development of site HOU066, which is much closer at roughly 200 meters north of Laceby Beck. Therefore, while SA8 may highlight potential challenges, they are manageable through proactive planning and adherence to environmental regulations.
    - The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

Laura Stops Carter Jonas Submission (Aylesby Manor Farms Limited)

- We disagree with the SA’s assessment of the options against a number of the objectives. With regard to SA1 (Climate Change), we do not agree with LUC’s assessment that Option D would have significant negative effects. In Paragraph 4.15, the SA notes that Option D could result in a higher level of housing growth compared to economic growth, leading to higher levels of commuting out of North East Lincolnshire for employment. We disagree with this sentiment. The HEDNA (December 2023) makes clear

that the Experian Economic Growth Scenario G projects a greater level of job growth equal to +4,560 jobs over the 20 year plan period. In Paragraph 6.92, the HEDNA states that this would require 507 dpa to sustain this level of growth (our emphasis). Therefore, it is our understanding that the level of housing proposed in Option D is required to support the Council's strong regeneration and economic growth objectives. If the number of jobs and the number of homes in the area align, as suggested in the HEDNA, this means that residents will not have to commute out of North East Lincolnshire for employment, contrary to the conclusion of the SA. Thus, it is considered that the Option should be appraised as having a positive effect with regard to climate change.

- We also disagree with LUC's assessment of Option D against SA15 (Sustainable Travel). Paragraph 4.26 of the Appraisal notes that Option D could result in significant negative effects with regard to sustainable travel as a high level of housing growth would result in more private vehicles using the roads and out commuting for jobs. As noted above, Option D would not result in residents commuting out of North East Lincolnshire for employment as the number of houses proposed (507 dpa) is to sustain the level of economic growth projected. Thus, the number of jobs and houses will align which in turn has a positive effect on sustainable travel and climate change.
    - The appraisal of Option D against SA1 and SA15 considers the potential for increase in carbon emissions and the overall transport effects of housing development. In general, higher levels of housing growth are likely to increase the population and, in turn, private vehicle use. This could also result in increased carbon emissions. Therefore, even where housing delivery is aligned with economic growth, development is still likely to generate additional car journeys.
- In terms of SA16 (Housing), whilst we are in agreement with LUC's assessment of Option D (significantly positive effects likely), we strongly disagree that Option A would generate significantly positive effects. Option A only seeks to deliver 203 dwellings per annum which is significantly lower than the other 3 options put forward in the HEDNA. As such, it is considered that Option A would fail to significantly boost the supply of homes in line with Chapter 5 of the NPPF (2023). Option D, on the other hand, would help to support national policy with regard to boosting the supply of homes by delivering 507 dwellings per annum. Thus, it is considered that the evidence base that underpins the Plan is flawed and therefore the Plan would fail to meet the test of soundness with regard to being justified and consistent with national policy.

- All four options would support the delivery of housing and therefore would result in positive effects on SA16. The spatial distribution of housing was considered as part of the options appraisal rather than options in relation to housing requirement. Given the introduction of the new standard method, the Council did not consider the other housing requirement options as reasonable alternatives. Therefore, the SA findings for the housing requirement options are no longer included in the SA Report.

- We strongly disagree with LUC's assessment that Option D would generate minor negative effects with regard to SA18 (Economic Growth). Paragraph 4.29 of the SA (December 2023) states that the highest level of housing growth proposed under Option D could result in too many people moving into North East Lincolnshire without the employment opportunities to match. It states that this could result in new residents commuting out of the district to find employment. As noted above, Paragraph 6.92 of the HEDNA makes it clear that the Experian Economic Growth Scenario G projects a great level of job growth equal to +4,560 jobs over the 20 year plan period and that 507dpa are required to sustain that. Thus, it is considered that residents will not have to commute out of North East Lincolnshire for employment, contrary to the conclusion of the SA. Option D generates a much higher level of job growth (+4,560) than Options A, B and C and thus it is considered that it supports North East Lincolnshire's strong regeneration and economic growth objectives as well as Chapter 6 of the NPPF (2023) which aims to build a strong, competitive economy. It is therefore considered that Option D should be appraised as having a positive effect with regard to economic growth. In our view, the Plan, would fail to meet the test of soundness with regard to being positively prepared, justified and consistent with national policy as the evidence base that underpins it is flawed.
- Finally, we disagree with LUC's assessment that Option D would create uncertain mixed significant negative and minor positive effects with regard to SA19 (Education). Whilst we acknowledge that higher levels of housing requires higher levels of education, it is considered that the levels of growth would increase investment to offer more education provision. What's more, the higher demand on education could be addressed by delivering community uses on allocated sites.
- To conclude, we consider that the SA which forms part of the evidence base that underpins the Plan is flawed. Thus, the Plan would fail to meet the test of soundness set out within Paragraph 35 of the NPPF (2023).

- A new standard method was introduced in December 2024 NPPF. Given the introduction of the new standard method, the Council did not consider the other housing requirement options as reasonable alternatives. Therefore, the SA findings for the housing requirement options are no longer included in the SA Report.

Land West of Butt Lane, Laceby and Land North of Main Road, Aylesby. Land West of Butt Lane, Laceby

- The Draft Local Plan SA (December 2023) prepared by LUC offers a positive assessment of the site on a number of sustainability objectives. It states that either uncertain significant positive effects or uncertain negligible effects are likely with regard to SA4 (Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment) and that significant positive effects are likely with regard to SA16 (Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone). We are in agreement with LUC's assessment with regard to SA4 and SA16. The Appraisal (December 2023) also appraises the site as having a minor positive effect on SA11 (Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire's population), SA14 (Ensure equal access to services, facilities and opportunities for all), SA18 (Good quality employment opportunities for everyone and supporting economic growth) and an uncertain minor positive effect on SA19 (Provide good education and training opportunities). We concur with this assessment.
- The SA (December 2023) assesses the site less positively on the following sustainability objectives: SA2 (Achieve efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land), SA3 (Maintain and improve a quality built environment and preserve heritage assets), SA6 (Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources), SA8 (Maintain and improve water quality), SA9 (Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and the natural environment) and SA17 (Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes).
- With regard to SA2, it is noted that the site comprises greenfield land, however, it is considered that development will have to come forward on greenfield land in order to meet the Council's local housing need. The site is located in a highly sustainable location on the edge of the settlement and thus presents an opportunity to create a natural extension to Laceby.
  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental

constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site and other planning factors.

- With regard to SA3, we disagree with LUC's assessment that the site could have an uncertain significant negative effect on the quality of the built environment and preservation of heritage assets. As noted in Paragraph 2.41 above, there are no statutorily listed heritage assets within the immediate vicinity of the site and the site is not located within a conservation area. It is our view that the site would form a natural extension to Laceby and thus would have a neutral/ positive effect on the quality of the existing built environment. Development will be focussed to the south of the site, adjacent to the existing built development, and would be designed to respond positively to its surroundings.
  - Without the availability of a Heritage Impact Assessment, a largely distance based approach was used in considering the impacts of a site in relation to heritage assets. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.
- In terms of SA6 and SA8, we are unclear as to why LUC have appraised the site to have an uncertain significant negative effect on maintaining and improving water quality and an uncertain minor negative effect on achieving the prudent and efficient use of natural resources. In our view, the evidence base that underpins the Plan is flawed. Thus, the Plan would fail to meet the test of soundness with regard to being justified.
  - As per the site assessment criteria, for SA6 site options were considered in relation to whether they fell within a Minerals Safeguarding Area. Under SA8, site options were scored in relation to whether they contained a watercourse or waterbody and/or fell within a Source Protection Zone.
- In terms of SA9, whilst we recognise that the northern part of the site is located within Flood Zones 2 and 3, we are only proposing development in the southern part of the site, which is located in Flood Zone 1. Moreover, as noted in Paragraph 2.44 above, the Flood Risk and Drainage assessment prepared in support of the previous application (LPA Ref: DM/0803/17/OUT) clearly demonstrates that from a flooding and drainage perspective, a fully policy compliant scheme could come forward and it would not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. We therefore consider that the site would have a neutral/ positive effect on SA Objective 9. Any

subsequent planning application would be supported by a Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment.

  - As well as considering whether the site option falls within a Flood Zone, the level of surface water flooding was also used as criteria within the appraisal. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

- With regard to SA17, whilst we note that the development of the site could have impacts on surrounding landscape, including the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), it is considered that these can be satisfactorily mitigated against through the delivery of a green infrastructure led scheme. The Green Wedges Methodology and Evaluation Document (October 2023) identifies that the site is located within an area of 'medium' overall sensitivity to change. The document states that these areas have some ability to absorb development in some situations without significant character change. It is envisaged that the proposal would be green infrastructure led to reflect its location. This would involve a significant green buffer along the northern boundary to provide a soft edge to the countryside along with substantial landscape planting to create a strong defensible boundary which will provide containment and screening. This would be informed by a comprehensive Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). As outlined above, it is considered that the proposed scale of development could be achieved whilst retaining a sufficient separation gap of 300+m between Laceby and Aylesby. We therefore consider that the site would have a neutral/ positive effect on SA Objective 17.
- In conclusion, we consider that the Council should allocate Land West of Butt Lane for circa 80 dwellings on the basis that the site is located in a highly sustainable location, on the edge of a highly sustainable settlement and does not have any insurmountable technical issues.

  - The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

Land North of Main Road, Aylesby

- In relation to HOU370, the SA (December 2023) states that either uncertain significant positive effects or uncertain negligible effects are likely with regard to SA4 (Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment). We concur with this assessment. It also appraises the site as having minor positive effects on the following sustainability objectives: SA11 (Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire's population), SA14 (Ensure equal access to services, facilities and opportunities for all), SA16 (Ensure good quality housing is available to everyone) and SA18 (Good quality employment opportunities for everyone and supporting economic growth). We agree with LUC's assessment on all of these objectives with the exception of SA16. We consider that the site should be appraised to have significant positive effects against SA16 on the basis that it has the potential to bring forward self and custom build housing to meet local need.
- The SA (December 2023) assesses the site less positively on the following sustainability objectives: SA2 (Achieve efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land), SA3 (Maintain and improve a quality built environment and preserve heritage assets), SA6 (Achieve the prudent and efficient use of energy, water, minerals and other natural resources), SA8 (Maintain and improve water quality), SA9 (Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and the natural environment), SA17 (Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes) and SA19 (Provide good education and training opportunities).
- In terms of SA2, whilst we recognise the site comprises greenfield land, development will need to come forward on greenfield land in order to meet the Council's locally assessed housing need. Land North of Main Road is located in a highly sustainable location and immediately abuts the settlement boundary along its southern boundary. Thus it is considered that it would create a natural small-scale extension to Aylesby.
  - Noted. The appraisal of a site through the SA is only part of the decision making process. The Council will consider environmental constraints associated with the site as well as achievability of developing the site as well as other planning factors.
- With regard to SA3, we disagree with the Appraisal's assessment that the site could have an uncertain significant negative effect on the quality of the built environment and preservation of heritage assets. Whilst there is a statutorily listed heritage asset 110m away from the site's southern boundary, it is considered that the scale of the proposed development

would limit any risk of harm to the asset. The scheme would also be designed to respect the site's surroundings, including the historic environment. Any subsequent planning application for the site would be supported by a Heritage Statement to address perceived concerns relating to heritage. With regard to the built environment, it is considered that the site would have a neutral/ positive effect against SA3 on the basis that it forms a natural extension to Aylesby. In addition, development of the site would not affect the view to or from the listed heritage asset as there are already 2-3 rows of dwellings and a public highway between St Lawrence Church and the site.

  - Without the availability of a Heritage Impact Assessment, a largely distance based approach was used in considering the impacts of a site in relation to heritage assets. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

- In terms of SA6 and SA8, it is unclear why LUC have assessed the site to have an uncertain minor negative effect on achieving the prudent and efficient use of natural resources and an uncertain significant negative effect on maintaining and improving water quality. In our view, neither of these assessments are justified and thus it is considered that the evidence base that underpins the Plan is flawed.

  - As per the site assessment criteria, for SA6 site options were considered in relation to whether they fell within a Minerals Safeguarding Area. Under SA8, site options were scored in relation to whether they contained a watercourse or waterbody and/or fell within a Source Protection Zone. The majority of the site options score negatively against SA8 as a large part of North East Lincolnshire is covered by Source Protection Zones.

- We disagree with LUC's assessment of the site with regard to SA9 as the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1 and is therefore considered to be at low risk of flooding from rivers and the sea. It is also predominantly at very low risk of surface water flooding with the exception of the site boundaries. We therefore consider that the site should be appraised to have a positive effect with regard to reducing the impact of flooding as it steers development towards areas at lowest risk of flooding.

- In terms of SA17, we consider that the scale of the proposed development, when combined with its location immediately adjacent to the settlement boundary, minimises any perceived impacts regarding landscape. A

landscape buffer would be provided along the northern and eastern boundaries of the site to mitigate against any perceived impact. Any subsequent planning application would also be supported by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. Thus, it is considered that the site would have a neutral effect against SA17.

  - Noted. The appraisal of site options is a high level appraisal and is not able to take into consideration the design of the site or any mitigation that would come through policy. If the site is allocated, any site allocation policy wording would be considered when appraising the site.

- Finally, in terms of SA19, we disagree with LUC's assessment that the site would have an uncertain minor negative effect with regard to providing good education and training opportunities. Aylesby has a SEMH (Social, Emotional, Mental Health School) which caters for children aged 5 to 11. Laceby is also located in close proximity to the site and has a pre-school and infant and junior school. Laceby and Aylesby are connected by a tarmac footpath which is accessible for all users. Thus, we consider that the site would have a positive effect against SA19.

  - The site option is considered in relation to its distance to pre-school, a primary school, a secondary school or a college based on a 600m distance. The appraisal found that Site HOU370 was located beyond 600m from a pre-school, a primary school, a secondary school or a college.

- As noted above, very limited site specific written commentary is provided in the SA (2023). Thus, it is considered the evidence base that underpins the Plan is flawed. The Plan would therefore fail to meet the test of soundness with regard to being justified.

Mr Phil Brock Tetra Tech (Marcus Jolly Limes Developments Limited)

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- Overall, the presence of the well-defined western boundary creates the opportunity to deliver a strong green edge to the Site and, the settlement as a whole, and a long- term defensible boundary to prevent urban sprawl. The SA Report prepared by LUC for the North East Lincolnshire's Pre Submission Local Plan (January 2016) recognises this and states: "Extent of built up frontage along Humberston Avenue means the site will have

limited impact on the strategic gap, and the opportunity to soften the west facing edge of the site could enhance the strategic gap."

- Noted.

Appendix B
Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

International Plans and Programmes of Most Relevance for the Local Plan

B.1 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace (COP28 Declaration) (2023) – international commitment to address the complex challenges posed by climate change, particularly in the most vulnerable regions. Although non-binding and outside the formal UNFCCC negotiations, this declaration unites the concerns and proposed solutions of countries and institutions across humanitarian, development, climate, and peace sectors. It aims to urgently enhance climate resilience in vulnerable communities that are most affected by climate-related conflicts and crises.

B.2 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. 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.

B.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.

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

B.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.

B.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.

B.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).

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

B.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.

B.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.

B.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.

B.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”.

B.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.

B.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.

B.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.

B.16 The Convention on Biological Diversity – Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) (UN Biodiversity Conference - COP 15, 2022) provides a strategic vision and a global roadmap for the conservation, protection, restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems to be achieved by 2030.

B.17 The Glasgow Pact (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2021) is an agreement reached at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). The main elements of the pact include an agreement to re-visit emission reduction plans in 2022 in order to try to keep the 1.5 °C Paris Agreement target achievable, a commitment to limit the use of unabated coal, and a commitment to climate finance for developing countries.

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

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

B.18 The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025) sets out the Government's plan to support housing and economic growth. The Act aims to speed up and streamline the delivery of new homes and critical infrastructure, supporting delivery of the government's Plan for Change milestones of building 1.5 million safe and decent homes in England and fast-tracking 150 planning decisions on major economic infrastructure projects by the end of the current Parliament. It will also support delivery of the government's Clean Power 2030 target by ensuring that key clean energy projects are built as quickly as possible.

B.19 Clean Energy Industries Sector Plan (2025) is the UK government's strategic initiative, under the Modern Industrial Strategy, to position the nation

as a global leader in frontier clean energy technologies by 2035. The Plan sets out an ambition to double investment across key clean energy industries, such as wind (onshore, offshore, floating), nuclear fission, fusion, hydrogen, carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS), greenhouse gas removals, and heat pumps, to over £30 billion per year, while continuing to support other vital technologies like solar, long-duration energy storage and bioenergy. It aims to catalyse private sector engagement by deploying targeted public investment, including more than £8.3 billion through Great British Energy and Great British Energy-Nuclear up to 2029 and a Clean Energy Supply Chain Fund, and by reducing barriers to investment, thereby providing industry certainty and encouraging deployment and innovation.

B.20 The **Hydrogen Update to the Market** (2025) provides a detailed overview of the UK's hydrogen sector progress in the first half of 2025 and outlines forthcoming opportunities as part of the government's Clean Energy Superpower and Growth Missions. It reports substantial milestones, including the shortlist of 27 projects advancing to Hydrogen Allocation Round 2 (HAR 2), with HAR 3 and HAR 4 scheduled from 2026 and 2028 respectively; HAR 1 winners have begun construction, unlocking over 700 skilled jobs across industrial regions. Significant investment commitments include over £500 million allocated toward developing the first regional hydrogen transport and storage network, aiming for operation by 2031, supported by a forthcoming Hydrogen to Power Business Model in 2026. The report highlights plans to abolish Climate Change Levy charges on electricity used in hydrogen electrolysis, regulatory and sector development initiatives, including skills and infrastructure planning, and signals the intent to publish a comprehensive UK Hydrogen Strategy in autumn 2025.

B.21 The **Onshore Wind Strategy** (2025) presents the country's first dedicated strategy to accelerate onshore wind deployment as a key component of its Clean Power 2030 mission. The strategy sets a target of deploying 27-29 GW of onshore wind capacity across Great Britain by 2030, significantly increasing from existing capacity of over 16 GW, and backed by over 40 actions to tackle barriers such as planning delays, aviation and defence conflicts, grid access, and community engagement. New measures include the creation of an Onshore Wind Council to oversee implementation, potential expansion of the Clean Industry Bonus to support UK-based supply chains, workforce and skills development initiatives, and a programme to repower ageing turbines while smoothing the consenting and survey process for new projects. The strategy also outlines mechanisms to ensure community benefit through up to £70 million annually (£5,000 per MW) in local investment, while projecting creation of up to 45,000 direct and indirect jobs by 2030. The overarching aim is

to deliver affordable, home grown renewable energy, reduce reliance on volatile gas markets, and bolster energy security through rapid onshore wind expansion

B.22 The **Seventh Carbon Budget** (2025) provides advice to the UK Government on the level of the Carbon Budget for the period 2038 to 2042. A limit on the UK's greenhouse gas emissions over this five-year period is set as 535 MtCO2e, including emissions from international aviation and shipping.

B.23 The **Carbon Budget and Growth Delivery** Plan (2025) sets out how the government will meet its statutory carbon budgets and secure the benefits of this transition for people and businesses. The plan sets out a package of quantified and unquantified proposals and policies and associated timescales and delivery risks. This includes actions around energy security and lower bills, such as incentivising new clean electricity generating projects in Great Britain.

B.24 The **Clean Power 2030 Action Plan** (2024) aims to secure a fully clean electricity system by 2030, enhancing energy security, reducing fossil fuel reliance, and cutting emissions. It focuses on expanding renewables, improving grid infrastructure, accelerating planning, and fostering investment through Great British Energy. Flexible energy solutions like battery storage and hydrogen aim to support stability, while regulatory reforms aim to lower consumer bills. With £40 billion in annual investment, the plan aims to drive economic growth, job creation, and long-term sustainability, as well as position the UK as a leader in renewable energy and advancing the net-zero transition.

B.25 The **Policy Statement on Onshore Wind** (2024) outlines a commitment to double onshore wind energy capacity by 2030. To achieve this, the policy removes previous planning restrictions specific to onshore wind projects in England, placing them on equal footing with other energy developments within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This change aims to boost Britain's energy independence, reduce energy bills, support high-skilled jobs, and address the climate crisis. The government also plans to consult on incorporating large onshore wind proposals into the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project regime to expedite their approval process.

B.26 The **National Adaptation Programme and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting** (2023) sets out a series of actions for the following sectors over a 5-year period:

- Infrastructure - new commitments on resilience standards, investment in water quality and a new transport adaptation strategy

- Nature environment - Local Nature Recovery Strategies, incorporate climate change adaptation into the design of Environmental Land Management schemes and Nature Recovery Projects
- Health, communities and the built environment - investment in flood and coastal erosion schemes, Adverse Weather & Health Plan, update the National Planning Policy Framework to support both adaptation and mitigation efforts and provide local climate projections
- Business and industry - Green Finance Strategy 2023, new strategy on supply chains and imports and survey business readiness for climate impacts.
- International impacts – the government will adapt and build resilience in vulnerable communities to climate related disasters and continue to drive international action and consensus in negotiations on climate adaptation

B.27 Met Office, State of the UK Climate (2024) – the tenth in the annual series of reports that provide a summary of the UK weather and climate through the calendar year 2023, alongside the historical context for a number of essential climate variables. It provides an accessible, authoritative and up-to-date assessment of UK climate trends, variations and extremes based on the most up to date observational datasets of climate quality.

B.28 The Biomass Strategy 2023 builds on the 2021 Biomass policy statement and the Powering up Britain strategy which emphasised the important role that biomass will play in Britain's fully decarbonised power system by 2035, subject to security of supply. It sets out steps government intends to take to strengthen biomass sustainability and the opportunities for the use of sustainable biomass across multiple sectors of the economy in support of achieving the UK's net zero target. The government aims to focus on implementing a cross-sectoral common sustainability framework, which will be subject to consultation. It states it committed to monitoring the levels of biomass supply to ensure the UK can secure necessary levels for increased biomass use across the economy. It has also committed to ensuring that biomass supply – given its risks and uncertainties – is not hindered at any stage; however, biomass demand is expected to increase. The government also aims for a "priority use" of biomass based on guiding principles that address sustainability, air quality, the net-zero and circular economy, and resource efficiency. This encompasses the deployment of bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS), the engineered greenhouse-gas removal technology, which captures and stores CO2 from biomass while producing low-carbon energy.

B.29 HM Government, The Carbon Budget Delivery Plan (2023) explains how the government intends to meet its legally-binding climate goals, setting out a package of quantified and unquantified proposals and policies, and associated timescales and delivery risks this also includes:

- Wider matters in connection with carbon budgets;
- The contribution of these proposals and policies to sustainable development; and
- The impact the package has on sectors of the economy.

B.30 Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Powering up Britain (2023) sets out the department's approach to energy security and net zero, and acts as an introduction to Powering Up Britain: Energy Security Plan, and Powering Up Britain: Net Zero Growth Plan.

B.31 HM Government, The Net Zero Growth Plan (2023) outlines the Government's plans to reach net zero and unlock the financial benefits that this can bring.

B.32 The **Environmental Improvement Plan** (2025) is a long-term delivery plan setting out 10 goals, commitments and actions in relation to the natural environment. The plan sets out how the government will work with landowners, communities and businesses to deliver each goal for improving the environment, matched with interim targets to measure progress. Taking these actions will help to restore nature, reduce environmental pollution, and increase the prosperity of the country. The overarching goal of the plan is achieving "restored nature", including progress towards the commitment to protect 30% of UK land and sea for nature by 2030, alongside improving the condition and resilience of nature assets.

B.33 HM Government, UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 outlines the UK government and devolved administrations' position on the key climate change risks and opportunities that the UK faces today. The risk assessment considers sixty-one UK-wide climate risks and opportunities cutting across multiple sectors of the economy and prioritises the following eight risk areas for action in the next two years:

- Risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitats and species from multiple hazards;
- Risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought;
- Risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards;

- Risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple climate hazards;
- Risks to supply of food, goods and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks;
- Risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system;
- Risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and other buildings; and
- Multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas.

B.34 Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and Department for Business, 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 aims 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.
- 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.

B.35 HM Government, 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.

B.36 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.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. 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;
- 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.

B.37 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. 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;
- 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).

B.38 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.

B.39 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.

B.40 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.

B.41 The 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.

B.42 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.

B.43 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).

B.44 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.

B.45 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.

B.46 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.

B.47 The Waste Management Plan for England (2021) sets out the measures for England to work towards a zero waste economy.

B.48 The Climate Change Act (2008) and **Climate Change Act 2009 (2050 Target Amendment) Order** 2019 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).

B.49 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.

B.50 The Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (2020) 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.

B.51 The Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Sources Regulations (2011) required the government to ensure that renewable energy comprised 15% of the UK's total energy mix by 2020. The Renewable Energy Directive has now been superseded by Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (RED II). Although the UK has now been released from the renewable energy targets under RED II following Brexit, the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement includes a commitment to promote energy efficiency and the use of energy from renewable sources and reaffirmation of the EU's 2030 "targets" and the UK's 2030 "ambitions" for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

B.52 The Net Zero – The UK's contribution to stopping global warming (Climate Change Committee, 2019) report responds to a request from the Governments of the UK, Wales and Scotland, asking the Committee to reassess the UK's long-term emissions targets. The Committee's new emissions scenarios draw on ten new research projects, three expert advisory groups, and reviews of the work of the IPCC and others. The report's key findings are that:

- The Committee on Climate Change recommends a new emissions target for the UK: net-zero greenhouse gases by 2050.
- In Scotland, the Committee recommend a net-zero date of 2045, reflecting Scotland's greater relative capacity to remove emissions than the UK as a whole.
- In Wales, the Committee recommend a 95% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2050.

B.53 A net-zero GHG target for 2050 will deliver on the commitment that the UK made by signing the Paris Agreement. It is achievable with known technologies, alongside improvements in people's lives, and within the expected economic cost that Parliament accepted when it legislated the existing 2050 target for an 80% reduction from 1990. However, this is only possible if clear, stable and well-designed policies to reduce emissions further are introduced across the economy without delay. Current policy is insufficient for even the existing targets.

B.54 The **National Infrastructure Strategy: Fairer, faster greener** (2020) sets out a comprehensive plan for changes in national infrastructure delivery, responding to the National Infrastructure Commission's 2018 Assessment. The Strategy focusses on five areas: driving recovery and rebuilding the economy in the wake of Covid-19; "levelling up" by investing across the country; decarbonising the economy towards net zero emissions by 2050; supporting private investment; and accelerating and improving delivery of infrastructure projects.

Health and Well-being

B.55 The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025) sets out the Government's plan to support housing and economic growth. The Act aims to speed up and streamline the delivery of new homes and critical infrastructure, supporting delivery of the government's Plan for Change milestones of building 1.5 million safe and decent homes in England and fast-tracking 150 planning decisions on major economic infrastructure projects by the end of the current Parliament. It will also support delivery of the government's Clean Power 2030 target by ensuring that key clean energy projects are built as quickly as possible.

B.56 Fit for the Future: The 10-Year Health Plan for England (2025) is a strategic blueprint designed to modernise the NHS. The plan implements three shifts in focus for healthcare delivery: moving care from hospitals into communities, transitioning from analogue to digital, and focusing on sickness prevention.

B.57 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2024) outlines objectives to ensure fair treatment of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople while respecting the interests of the settled community. Local planning authorities are encouraged to assess and address the need for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson sites collaboratively, developing fair strategies and identifying appropriate land. The policy emphasises protecting the Green Belt from inappropriate development, promoting private site provision, and reducing

unauthorised developments through effective planning and enforcement. This policy should be read alongside the National Planning Policy Framework to guide local authorities in plan-making and decision-taking regarding Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson sites

B.58 The **Policy Statement on New Towns** (2024) outlines a strategic vision to stimulate economic growth and enhance living standards by constructing 1.5 million new homes during the current parliamentary term. Central to this initiative is the development of large-scale communities, each comprising at least 10,000 homes, through both standalone new towns on greenfield sites and significant urban extensions or regeneration projects. These developments aim to address housing demand, alleviate constraints in existing urban areas, and align with national infrastructure plans. To ensure these new towns are well-connected, sustainable, and desirable places to live, the government has introduced a 'New Towns Code' mandating high standards of design and infrastructure, with a target of 40% affordable housing, focusing on social rented homes. An independent New Towns Taskforce, chaired by Sir Michael Lyons, has been established to advise on suitable locations for these developments, with a final shortlist expected within 12 months.

B.59 Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023) sets out the direction for planning and makes provisions to support the levelling-up agenda. It seeks to streamline the planning process whilst attaching greater weight to development plans. It also aims to improve infrastructure delivery with a new levy system, improve alignment between plans to address cross-boundary issues, and will introduce added protection for heritage assets. The Act also states that existing EU-generated systems of SEA, HRA and EIA will eventually be replaced by a simpler process known as ‘Environmental Outcomes Reports’.

B.60 Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan (2023) sets out a comprehensive strategy to combat anti-social behaviour (ASB) and restore public confidence in community safety. The plan emphasises a zero-tolerance approach and introduces several key measures, including increasing the use of hotspot policing and enforcement, and changing laws and systems to take a zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour.

B.61 The Homes England Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028 (2023) sets out a vision to drive regeneration and housing delivery, to ensure that more homes are built in areas of greatest need, to improve affordability, and make a more resilient and diverse housing market.

B.62 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. Environment Agency, The State of the Environment: Health, People and the Environment (2021) focuses on the relationship between human health and people's access to and connection with a clean, high quality natural environment. It presents information on England's environment, and people's exposure to environmental pollutants, flooding and climate change in relation to human health. It highlights environmental inequalities that contribute to differences in health outcomes for people in England.

B.63 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.

B.64 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.

B.65 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.

B.66 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.

B.67 UK Parliament, **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 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.

B.68 Institute of Heath Equity, 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". **Marmot Review 10 Years On** (2020) revisits Fair Society, Healthy Lives. It found that, since 2010, life expectancy in England has stalled, which suggests society has stopped improving. In addition, there are marked regional differences in life expectancy – the more deprived the area, the shorter the life expectancy. Mortality rates are increasing in those aged 45-49, child poverty has increased and there is a housing crisis and rise in homelessness.

B.69 Laying the foundations: A housing strategy for England aims to provide support to deliver new homes and improve social mobility.

B.70 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.

B.71 The Environmental Noise Regulations (2018) 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.

B.72 The State of the Environment: Health, People and the Environment report focuses on the relationship between human health and people's access to and connection with a clean, high quality natural environment. It presents information on England's environment, and people's exposure to environmental pollutants, flooding and climate change in relation to human health. It highlights environmental inequalities that contribute to differences in health outcomes for people in England. Case studies throughout the report demonstrate the role played by the Environment Agency in protecting and enhancing the environment, and how this benefits people's health.

B.73 The Green Infrastructure Framework (2023) will help increase the amount of green cover to 40% in urban residential areas. The Green Infrastructure Framework provides a structure to analyse where greenspace in urban environments is needed most. It aims to support equitable access to greenspace across the country, with an overarching target for everyone being able to reach good quality greenspace in their local area. From parks to green roofs, and increased tree cover, the Green Infrastructure Framework will make a significant contribution to nature recovery by embedding nature into new developments. Increasing the extent and connectivity of nature-rich habitats will also help increase wildlife populations, build resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensure our cities are habitable for the future. It provides a range of practical resources to support Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) and developers to fully consider GI needs and opportunities in both policy and practice. The framework achieves the following:

- Identifies principles around why GI is important, what is meant by good GI, and how to deliver it.
- Sets clear standards, a design guide and case studies to support high quality GI planning and delivery.

- Provides insight and mapping to help explore current provision of GI across various types, and the ability to view such provision against key considerations – such as population densities, health data, demographics, socioeconomic factors etc. – to help identify needs.

B.74 The framework allows decision makers and those who can influence GI to act in accordance with best practice and evidence on real local challenges and needs.

Environment (biodiversity/geodiversity, landscape and soils)

B.75 Natural England's Strategy: Recovering Nature for Growth, Health and Security (2025) sets out the actions needed for nature to adapt and be more resilient to pressures such as climate change. It focuses on nature recovery contributing to housing delivery, public health, and national security, recognising nature as essential to sustaining growth and a healthy society. The Strategy is framed around four strategic outcomes for nature:

- Recovering Nature – Increased scale and quality of places where nature thrives.
- Building Better Places – Greener homes and infrastructure create healthier, more investible places, recognising we live better where nature thrives around us.
- Improving Health and Wellbeing – Build nature into everyday life so people can support, access and benefit from nature, wherever they live.
- Delivering Security through Nature – Nature helps us adapt to the threats of a changing climate and improves our national security, supporting more resilient food production, healthy soils, clean and plentiful water and clean air.

B.76 Environmental Improvement Plan 2025 is a long-term delivery plan setting out 10 goals, commitments and actions in relation to the natural environment. The plan sets out how the government will work with landowners, communities and businesses to deliver each goal for improving the environment, matched with interim targets to measure progress. Taking these actions will help to restore nature, reduce environmental pollution, and increase the prosperity of the country. The overarching goal of the plan is achieving “restored nature”, including progress towards the commitment to protect 30% of UK land and sea for nature by 2030, alongside improving the condition and resilience of nature assets.

B.77 The **Climate and Nature Bill** (2024) is a proposed piece of legislation aimed at addressing the climate and ecological crises by setting legally binding targets to limit global heating and restore nature. It seeks to ensure that the UK does its fair share in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with the most up-to-date science, aiming to keep global temperature rises below 1.5°C. The bill also emphasises protecting and restoring biodiversity, requiring the government to develop and implement a strategy for nature recovery. A key aspect is the inclusion of a citizens' assembly to guide decision-making, ensuring public involvement in shaping climate and nature policies. The bill proposes stricter accountability measures, obliging the government to take action beyond existing net-zero commitments and biodiversity targets. It has gained support from environmental groups, scientists, and some MPs, though it has not yet been passed into law.

B.78 The waste prevention programme for England: Maximising Resources, Minimising Waste (2023) sets out government's priorities for managing resources and waste, in line with the resources and waste strategy for England.

B.79 25 Year Environment Plan: progress reports (2023) sets out the progress made in improving the environment through the 25 Year Plan and the indicator framework, which contains 66 indicators arranged into 10 broad themes.

B.80 Working with nature (2022) discusses the importance of nature in providing ecosystem services and presents recent and historical trends in biodiversity. It outlines some of the main pressures affecting England's habitats, wildlife and ecosystems: land use; climate change; pollution; invasive non-native species; and hydrological change.

B.81 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.

B.82 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.

B.83 Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations (2015) wide-ranging government regulations that can potentially apply to many businesses. The regulations oblige those who create environmental damage, whether by water pollution, adversely affecting protected species or sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), or by land pollution that causes risks to human health, to not only cease the damage, but also to implement a wide variety of remedial measures to restore affected areas.

B.84 Defra Right of Way Circular (1/09) (2011) gives advice to local authorities on recording, managing and maintaining, protecting and changing public rights of way.

B.85 The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2010) is an Act of Parliament to make new provision for public access to the countryside.

B.86 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.

B.87 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.

B.88 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) places a duty on public bodies to conserve biodiversity.

B.89 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.

B.90 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. Biodiversity elements in the Act include:

- Strengthened biodiversity duty. Both onsite and offsite enhancements must be maintained for at least 30 years after completion of a development.
- Biodiversity net gain to ensure developments deliver at least 10% increase in biodiversity
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies to support a Nature Recovery Network.
- Duty upon Local Authorities to consult on street tree felling.
- Strengthen woodland protection enforcement measures.
- Conservation Covenants.
- Protected Site Strategies and Species Conservation Strategies to support the design and delivery of strategic approaches to deliver better outcomes for nature.
- Prohibit larger UK businesses from using commodities associated with wide-scale deforestation.
- Requires regulated businesses to establish a system of due diligence for each regulated commodity used in their supply chain, requires regulated businesses to report on their due diligence, introduces a due diligence enforcement system.

B.91 The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) is the primary legislation which protects animals, plants and habitats in the UK. The major points of the Act are:

- Wild birds - all wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected. It's an offence to intentionally disturb certain species of bird while they're nesting.
- Shooting birds - under licence, some species of bird can be shot outside the breeding season.
- Selling birds - some species of bird can be sold if they've been bred in captivity and fitted with a ring.

- Injured birds can be treated, provided that they're released afterwards. If seriously injured, they may be humanely put down.
- Endangered species - certain endangered species, such as red squirrels, are protected.
- Common animals, such as the fox or rabbit, aren't protected, but some methods used to kill them are prohibited, such as self-locking snares.
- Non-native animals - it's against the law to release, or allow to escape, non-native animals such as the grey squirrel or mink.
- Licences - these can be issued by Natural England or Natural Resources Wales so that landowners or an 'authorised person' can take action against certain species for specific reasons (as defined by the licence).
- People legally killing animals must take precautions to prevent protected species from being killed or injured.

B.92 The **Working with nature (2022) report** discusses the importance of nature in providing ecosystem services and presents recent and historical trends in biodiversity. It outlines some of the main pressures affecting England's habitats, wildlife and ecosystems: land use; climate change; pollution; invasive non-native species; and hydrological change.

B.93 The **National Quality Mark Scheme for Land Contamination Management (NQMS) Scheme** (2024) has been developed by the National Brownfield Forum (formerly Land Forum) to provide visible identification of documents that have been checked for quality by a Suitably Qualified and experienced Person (SQP). It provides increased confidence and improved quality of submissions made under regulatory regimes, particularly planning applications, related to previously used land.

Historic Environment

B.94 Historic England Strategy 2026-2031 (2026) 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.

B.95 Department for Digital, Culture Media & Sport, **The Heritage Alliance, 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.

B.96 The Setting of Heritage Assets (2017) – Sets out guidance, against the background of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the related guidance given in the Planning Practice Guide (PPG), on managing change within the settings of heritage assets, including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes.

B.97 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.

B.98 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.

B.99 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.

B.100 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.

B.101 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

B.102 The National Framework for Water Resources (2025): Water for Growth, Nature and a Resilient Future (2025) provides a strategic blueprint for managing England's long-term water needs. It emphasises the twin imperatives of securing resilient water supplies to support housing, energy, food production, economic growth, and a thriving natural environment, while safeguarding ecosystems through sustainable abstraction and nature-based solutions. The Framework projects significant pressures on water resources driven by climate change, population growth, and emerging industrial demands, forecasting a shortfall of up to 5 billion litres per day by 2055. It calls for integrated, multi-sector planning across national, regional, and local levels, combining demand management (such as leakage reduction and efficiency improvements) with development of new infrastructure and environmental enhancements.

B.103 Plan for Water: Our Integrated Plan for Delivering Clean and Plentiful Water (2023) sets out actions to transform the management of the water system, deliver cleaner water for nature and people, and secure a plentiful water supply. The Plan also sets out measures to address sources of pollution, and boost water supplies through more investment, tighter regulation, and more effective enforcement.

B.104 The Air quality strategy for England (2023) sets out local authorities powers and responsibilities as well as the actions that Defra expects local authorities to take in support of the governments long-term air quality goals, including new PM2.5 targets.

B.105 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. It also establishes the Office for Environmental Protection which will act as an impartial and objective body for the protection and improvement of the environment. The Act sets out legislation which covers:

- Resource efficiency, producer responsibility, and the management, enforcement and regulation of waste;
- Local air quality management frameworks and the recall of motor vehicles etc; and
- Plans and proposals for water resources, drainage and sewerage management, storm overflows, water quality and land drainage.

B.106 Managing Water Abstraction (2021) is the overarching document for managing water resources in England and Wales and links together the abstraction licensing strategies.

B.107 National Chalk Streams Strategy (2021) – Was built around the "trinity of ecological health": water quantity, water quality and habitat quality and included 30+ recommendations to Defra, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the water companies, NGOs and stakeholders.

B.108 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.

B.109 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.

B.110 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.

B.111 The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) 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.

B.112 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.

B.113 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.

B.114 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.

B.115 The Air Quality Standards Regulations (2016) set out limits on concentrations of outdoor air pollutants that impact public health, most notably particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2). It also sets out the procedure and requirements for the designation of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

B.116 The Flood and Water Management Act (2010) and **The Flood and Water Regulations** (2019) set 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).

B.117 Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations (2009) implement in England and Wales Community legislation on pollution of groundwater. They provide rules for the granting by the Environment Agency of a permit under these Regulations, consent under section 91(8) of the Water Resources Act 1991 and (with exceptions) an environmental permit under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations. In addition, the Regulations create an offence of discharge of a hazardous substance or non-hazardous pollutant without a permit, provide for powers of enforcement of the Environment Agency and prescribe penalties for offences committed under these Regulations.

B.118 Flood Risk Regulations (2009) these Regulations outline a set of tasks, which the county council is required to follow between now and approximately 2015. The regulations also implement the 2007 EU Floods Directive. In accordance with the regulations the council has a series of new responsibilities, these are:

- The preparation of a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) Report, including the identification of flood risk areas
- The preparation of Flood Hazard Maps and Flood Risk Maps
- The preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans
- Cooperating with the Environment Agency and other Lead Local Flood Authorities.

B.119 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.

B.120 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.

B.121 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.

B.122 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.

B.123 The Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations (2015) oblige those who create environmental damage, whether by water pollution, adversely affecting protected species or sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), or by land pollution that causes risks to human health, to not only cease the damage, but also to implement a wide variety of remedial measures to restore affected areas.

B.124 The Groundwater (England and Wales) Regulations (2009) aim to prevent the entry into groundwater of "hazardous substances" and the pollution of groundwater by "non-hazardous" pollutants.

B.125 The Flood Risk Regulations (2009) implement the EU Flood Directive in England. They provide a framework for managing flood risk over a 6 year cycle, and require:

- production of a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA)
- identification of potential significant risk, referred to as flood risk areas (FRAs)
- mapping of flood hazard and risk
- Flood Risk Management Plans, setting out measures and actions to reduce the risk.
- Cooperation with the Environment Agency and other Lead Local Flood Authorities.

B.126 The Regulations require that each of the four elements identified above be reviewed and updated where necessary, at least every six years.

B.127 The Drought response: our framework for England (Environment Agency, 2017) document developed by the Environment Agency details how drought affects England and how the Environment Agency works with government, water companies and others to manage the effects on people, business and the environment. It aims to ensure consistency in the way we co-ordinate drought management across England. It sets out:

- How drought affects different parts of England
- Who is involved in managing drought and how these parties work together
- How the Environment Agency and others take action to manage drought

- How the Environment Agency monitor and measure the impacts of drought to advise senior management and government on the prospects and possible action
- How the Environment Agency report on drought and communicate with others.

B.128 The Environment Agency's Approach for Groundwater Protection (2018) updates Groundwater protection: Principles and practice (GP3). It contains position statements which provide information about the Environment Agency's approach to managing and protecting groundwater. They detail how the Environment Agency delivers government policy for groundwater and adopts a risk-based approach where legislation allows. Many of the approaches set out in the document's position statements are not statutory but may be included in, or referenced by, statutory guidance and legislation.

B.129 The National Chalk Stream Strategy (2021) was published by Catchment Based Approach's (CaBA) Chalk Stream Restoration Group (CSRG) and sets the future direction needed to protect and enhance England's chalk streams. Recommendations in the strategy include enhanced status to drive investment in water resources – to help reduce pollution and eliminate over-abstraction – and restoring physical habitat and biodiversity. The strategy has brought together partners including the Environment Agency, Natural England, Defra, water companies and environmental organisations.

Economic Growth

B.130 The Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025) sets out the Government's plan to support housing and economic growth. The Act aims to speed up and streamline the delivery of new homes and critical infrastructure, supporting delivery of the government's Plan for Change milestones of building 1.5 million safe and decent homes in England and fast-tracking 150 planning decisions on major economic infrastructure projects by the end of the current Parliament. It will also support delivery of the government's Clean Power 2030 target by ensuring that key clean energy projects are built as quickly as possible.

B.131 UK Infrastructure: A 10 Year Strategy (2025) sets out an integrated plan to transform economic, housing and social infrastructure over the next decade. It commits to at least £725 billion in public investment, supplemented by private financing via carefully targeted public-private partnership models and a new National Wealth Fund. The strategy introduces multiyear capital budgets (initially five-year, reviewed biennially) and establishes the National

Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority (NISTA) to unify planning, improve project delivery, assure major schemes, and coordinate a transparent Infrastructure Pipeline launched in July 2025. It aims to boost growth, align infrastructure with government missions, including housing, clean energy, public services and net zero, reduce planning delays, build institutional capacity, support supply chains and skills development, and provide stability and clarity to investors.

B.132 The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy (2025) outlines a 10 year plan to boost business investment and elevate the UK's performance in eight designated growth driving sectors: advanced manufacturing; clean energy industries; creative industries; defence; digital and technologies; financial services; life sciences; and professional & business services. The strategy aims to provide long term stability and certainty to encourage both domestic and international investment, through sector plans, streamlined regulation, enhanced access to finance, including via the National Wealth Fund and British Business Bank, and by accelerating grid connections and infrastructure delivery. It includes regional and place-based initiatives, with targeted support for city regions, industrial clusters and Industrial Strategy Zones to drive inclusive growth across the UK . The strategy is also supported by a robust monitoring framework overseen by a newly established Industrial Strategy Advisory Council, and embeds vocabulary around long-termism, pro-business engagement, competition policy, skills development and innovation.

B.133 The **Plan for Change** (2024) outlines the UK Government's framework for long-term policy delivery across five priority areas: economic growth, healthcare, public safety, opportunity, and clean energy. It sets out specific targets within this Parliament, underpinned by aims to ensure economic stability, reform public services, and implement a more mission-focused approach to governance.

B.134 UK Parliament, The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023) sets out the direction for planning and makes provisions to support the levelling-up agenda. It seeks to streamline the planning process whilst attaching greater weight to development plans. It also aims to improve infrastructure delivery with a new levy system, improve alignment between plans to address cross-boundary issues, and will introduce added protection for heritage assets. The Act also states that existing EU-generated systems of SEA, HRA and EIA will eventually be replaced by a simpler process known as 'Environmental Outcomes Reports'.

B.135 HM Treasury, **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.

B.136 Defra, The Agricultural Transition Plan 2021 to 2024 aims to drive competitiveness, increase productivity, reduce carbon emissions, and generate 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).

B.137 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.

B.138 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

B.139 Better Connected: a strategy for integrated transport (2026) outlines eight priorities for creating an integrated transport system that makes greener modes of transport easier and more reliable. They are:

- Simplify payments and information
- Provide safe and dependable journeys

- Make travel accessible and affordable
- Create healthier communities
- Align transport and development
- Champion data and technology
- Empower local leaders
- Optimise decision-making and appraisal

B.140 UK Infrastructure: A 10 Year Strategy (2025) sets out an integrated plan to transform economic, housing and social infrastructure over the next decade. It commits to at least £725 billion in public investment, supplemented by private financing via carefully targeted public-private partnership models and a new National Wealth Fund. The strategy introduces multiyear capital budgets (initially five-year, reviewed biennially) and establishes the National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority (NISTA) to unify planning, improve project delivery, assure major schemes, and coordinate a transparent Infrastructure Pipeline launched in July 2025. It aims to boost growth, align infrastructure with government missions, including housing, clean energy, public services and net zero, reduce planning delays, build institutional capacity, support supply chains and skills development, and provide stability and clarity to investors.

B.141 National Highways Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2023) sets out National Highways' vision for the organisation in terms of the role it can play in national prosperity and helping to protect and enhance the environment. It sets out that the organisation will deliver net zero corporate emissions by 2030, maintenance and construction emissions by 2040 and road user emissions by 2050.

B.142 The **Department for Transport, Future of Transport: supporting rural transport innovation** (2023) shows how innovative and emerging transport technologies could address some of the major challenges in rural communities. It highlights the importance of transport to everyday life rural life and provides guiding principles for the introduction of new technologies and services.

B.143 The **Second Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy** (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.

B.144 Department for Transport (DfT) Circular 01/2022 "Strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development," is the core policy document dictating how National Highways engages with the planning system.

B.145 Secretary for Transport, 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.

B.146 Future of freight plan (2022) the vision is to create a freight and logistics sector that is cost-efficient, reliable resilient, environmentally sustainable and valued by society. It identifies the main challenges, objectives and actions that need to be taken in the following 5 priority areas:

- National Freight Network (NFN)
- Enabling the transition to net zero
- Planning
- People and skills
- Data and technology

B.147 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 DPT 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.

B.148 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. It also establishes the Office for Environmental Protection which will act as an impartial and objective body for the protection and improvement of the environment. The Act sets out legislation

which covers local air quality management frameworks and the recall of motor vehicles.

B.149 Jet Zero Strategy Delivering net zero aviation by 2050 (2020) aims to reduce in-sector emissions from aviation by around 50% by 2050. The strategy is underpinned by three principles:

- International leadership: Leading coordinated global efforts to tackle international aviation emissions, including through ongoing work in the International Civil Aviation Organization.
- Delivered in partnership: Working with all parts of the sector and different partners to develop, test, implement and invest in the solutions needed.
- Maximising opportunities: Using the opportunity of the Jet Zero transition to boost the economy, create new jobs, develop new industries, and become a more energy secure nation.

B.150 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.

B.151 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.

B.152 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.

B.153 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.

B.154 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.

B.155 Defra Rights of Way Circular (1/09) (2011) gives advice to local authorities on recording, managing and maintaining, protecting and changing public rights of way.

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

Regional

B.156 Lincolnshire Local Aggregate Assessment (2026) forecasts future demand for aggregates in Lincolnshire. It identifies 9 active sand and gravel quarries and extraction sites, and 15 limestone quarries (of which six were inactive or not producing aggregate as of 2024). It states that based on current projections, there are sufficient sand and gravel reserves in Lincolnshire to meet the seven-year landbank required by NPPF, and crushed rock reserves equivalent to a nine-year landbank (slightly below the ten-year requirement).

B.157 The **Greater Lincolnshire Nature Recovery Strategy** (2026) was developed to deliver improvements for nature across the region, putting forward tangible and practical actions that will achieve the greatest benefit in restoring

habitats, increasing connectivity between green spaces and supporting species recovery. The Strategy maps existing areas of value, identifies opportunities areas and defines local priorities for habitat creation and restoration. It's top five aims are:

- More, Bigger, Better and Joined up sites supporting local wildlife (the Lawton Principles)
- Larger populations and broader distribution of key and rare species
- Increased benefits to people from nature, with nature supporting healthy and happy communities
- Building agricultural resilience in Greater Lincolnshire by supporting key processes such as pollination
- Reducing the impacts of climate change on nature and local communities, such as from flooding and drought

B.158 The **Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Strategic Action Plan 2025-2035** (Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project, 2025) succeeds the one for 2019 – 2025. The Plan seeks to make sustainable improvements to chalk streams and blow wells in Lincolnshire focussed around the Lincolnshire Wolds for the benefit of wildlife and the community, raise awareness of chalk streams and related features and their importance to engender long-term positive behaviours, and improve knowledge of Lincolnshire's chalk stream and blow well habitats.

B.159 Our Integrated Strategy for Wellbeing, Health and Care (Humber Transforming Care Partnership, 2024) sets outs what the partnership wants to achieve as a Transforming Care Partnership. It sets out their Mission, Vision, Values and Goals for the next two years. Transforming Care is all about improving health and care services, so that more people with a learning disability and/or autistic people can live in the community, with the right support. This means that fewer people will need to go into hospital for their care.**The Electric Vehicle Strategy** (2024-2030) has been developed to support the overarching objectives of the local transport plan. The process took a four stage approach:

- Baselining and research;
- Policy context and technical stakeholder engagement;
- Forecasting demand and charging requirements; and
- Recommendations and reporting.

B.160 North and North East Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) (2022) provides an update on the original report which was published in 2011. The 2022 SFRA has been prepared in collaboration with North Lincolnshire Council, and the Environment Agency. This revised SFRA will be used by both North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council in decision making and to inform decisions on the location of future development, and the preparation of sustainable policies for the long term management of flood risk, taking into account the latest and most up to date information.

B.161 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 timelines 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.

B.162 The Lincolnshire Cycling Strategy (2022) and **Lincolnshire Walking Strategy (2022)** are supplementary to the Local Transport Plan 5 and set out how Lincolnshire County Council will support walking and cycling in the long-term. This includes objectives to improve active travel provision and increase the number of people who walk and cycle on a regular basis. The strategies are built around themes which relate to infrastructure provision, human and environmental health, tourism and leisure, and economic development.

B.163 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.

B.164 The Humber River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan 2021 to 2027 (Environment Agency, 2022) set out how organisations, stakeholders and communities will work together to manage flood risk. It explains the objectives and the measures (actions) needed to manage flood risk at a national and local level.

B.165 The **Water Resources Management Plan 2024** (Anglian Water, WRMP24) demonstrates how Anglian Water ensure a sustainable and secure supply of clean drinking water for their 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 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.

B.166 Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Water Management Strategy 2019-2050 seeks to manage the impact of flood risk to people, businesses and the environment across Lincolnshire. It outlines objectives for managing flood risk, how and when measures will be implemented, local flood risk assessments (in relation to surface runoff, groundwater and watercourses) and how the strategy aligns with environmental objectives.

B.167 Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan (2018-2023) contains five key aims 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
- Partnerships between organisations, the local community, landowners and others with an interest in the Wolds.

B.168 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.

B.169 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'. Work is currently underway on producing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Lincolnshire.

B.170 The **Humber River Basin District River Basin Management Plan** (2022) 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:

- Current condition and environmental objectives;
- Challenges for the water environment; and,
- Summary programmes of measures.

B.171 The Drought Plan (2022) provides an overview on how Anglian Water propose to manage water resources during a drought to protect public water supplies, whilst minimising any environmental impacts that may arise as a result of their activities. It is an update of the previously published revised draft Drought Plan 2022, and includes the management actions that Anglian Water will take before, during and after a drought. The Plan provides an overview of the operational and tactical actions for managing a drought were it to occur in the period 2022-2027.

B.172 The **Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England** (Water Resources East, 2023) is one of five regional plans developed to meet

England's future water needs. These plans consider their region's water needs and fit together to provide a joined up national solution. The plans make water supplies more resilient to severe droughts, leave more water in the environment and plan ahead for population growth and climate change.

B.173 The **Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan** (Anglian Water, 2023) sets out a long term strategic plan setting out how wastewater systems, and the drainage networks that impact them, are to be maintained, improved and extended over the next 25 years to make sure they're robust and resilient to future pressures. The outputs from the DWMP will support the creation of a Long Term Delivery Strategy (LTDS) and Anglian Waters business plan for the 2024 Price Review.

B.174 The evidence-led **Local Industrial Strategy for Lincolnshire** (2021) 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.

B.175 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.

B.176 Greater Lincolnshire's Economic Plan for Growth (2021) is a Covid-19 revival plan, which has been developed in partnership across over 25 local authority, private sector, third sector, and education organisations which aims to support the economy and business community. It aims to protect businesses and communities, ensure businesses get the support they need, protecting jobs and livelihoods while the disruption continues, progress with plans for good growth in Greater Lincolnshire, while acknowledging that Covid-19 changes many parameters and requires new approaches and come out of this tumultuous period with stronger foundations and better outcomes for residents.

B.177 Humber Estuary Plan (2021) marks the start of the next phase of working together to grow the Humber Estuary economy, building on the progress the region has made over the last ten years. This plan sets out a

framework for the next phase of collaboration across the Humber Estuary economy, based on the identified shared strategic opportunities. It provides the framework for that collaboration and the first set of actions to take it forward, which is complemented by wider actions on innovation, business, infrastructure and skills that are set out in the two LEPs' economic strategies.

B.178 The **Lincolnshire Waste Needs Assessment 2021** was prepared to support the development of the new Minerals and Waste Local Plan and seeks to identify if a need for additional waste management capacity exists in Lincolnshire. It found that existing consented capacity is likely to be sufficient to manage Lincolnshire's waste to 2045, with potential surpluses in built waste management capacity.

B.179 The **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.

B.180 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.

Local

B.181 The **North East Lincolnshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2026** has identified a need for five new pitches up to 2043/44.

B.182 North East Lincolnshire Council Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (2025) provides an evidence base for the housing and economic needs of the council area and inform policies in the Local Plan. It establishes a minimum requirement of 9,742 new homes to 2031/32, with 8,800 new jobs projected and between 51.1 ha and 86.06 ha of employment land required by 2041.

B.183 The **North East Lincolnshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy** (2025-2035) provides a vision for improving health and reducing health inequalities in the area, with a focus on addressing the wider determinants of health. It sets out six strategic aims for the period to 2035:

- Increase healthy life expectancy
- Reduce health inequalities
- Narrow the gap in health outcomes between our most
- Improve mental wellbeing
- Make public health everyone's business
- Embed prevention and early intervention
- Create a fairer, greener, and more inclusive borough.

B.184 The North East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership Strategic Plan 2025-2029 identifies key local issues relating to public safety and wellbeing, which comprise antisocial behaviour, serious and organised crime, serious violence and community cohesion. It also puts forward a four-year delivery plan for achieving improved safety and wellbeing outcomes for North East Lincolnshire.

B.185 The North East Lincolnshire Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2023-2028 acts as a roadmap for delivering and facilitating community sport, physical activity and leisure provision in North East Lincolnshire. More broadly, it seeks to support a more active population, improve physical and mental health and reduce health inequalities.

B.186 The North East Lincolnshire Housing Strategy 2023-2028 sets out the council's priorities for housing, built around five delivery themes. These are:

- Deliver new and affordable homes and support Town Centre regeneration.
- Prevent homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Improve homes within the Private Rented Sector and reduce the number of empty homes.
- Improve accessibility to appropriate housing for all residents including those aged 16-25 years.
- Create greener homes through retrofit and new build.

B.187 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.

B.188 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.

B.189 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:

- 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.

B.190 The **North East Lincolnshire Net Zero Carbon Roadmap** (2021) 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.

B.191 The **North East Lincolnshire Council Waste Management Strategy** (2020-2035) sets out the council's approach to the collection and management of waste against the backdrop of the climate emergency and achieving a circular waste economy. Among its priorities are reducing waste, improving the quality of waste recycling, reducing travel distance to disposal points and avoiding landfill.

B.192 The **North East Lincolnshire Economy Strategy** (2021) establishes the council's approach to local economic development, with ports, manufacturing and food identified as core sources of employment for the area. Offshore wind is a growing sector, and green energy is identified as a strategic opportunity for future development. The strategy describes North East Lincolnshire as being situated among "the most carbon intensive cluster in the UK".

B.193 The **Grimsby, Ancholme and Louth abstraction licencing strategy** (Environment Agency, 2020) sets out the Environment Agency's approach to managing new and existing abstraction and impoundment within the Grimsby, Ancholme & Louth catchment in the Humber river basin district. The Grimsby, Ancholme and Louth Abstraction Licensing Strategy (ALS) area covers an area of approximately 1,464 km2 and is bounded by the Humber Estuary to the north, the North Sea to the east, the Witham and Steeping ALS area to the south, and the Lower Trent ALS area (in the East Midlands area) to the west. The strategy ensures that River Basin Management Plan objectives for water resources activities are met and deterioration within this catchment is avoided.

B.194 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.
- 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.

9.6 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 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

9.7 Ensure effective emergency flood response plans are in place.**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.

Surrounding Development Plans

North Lincolnshire

B.195 North Lincolnshire is situated to the north-east of North East Lincolnshire. The **North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework 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.

B.196 North Lincolnshire Council submitted its new Local Plan for Examination in 2022; however it was withdrawn in September 2024 and work began on a new Local Plan. Initial evidence gathering, call for sites and public consultation for the emerging Plan took place between May and July 2025, with Draft Plan consultation due in 2026.

Central Lincolnshire

B.197 At the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (CLJSPC) meeting on 13th April 2023, the new **Central Lincolnshire Local Plan** was formally adopted. It will be used in making decisions on planning applications across the City of Lincoln, North Kesteven District and West Lindsey District areas replacing the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan adopted in 2017. Central Lincolnshire is situated to the south of North East Lincolnshire within Lincolnshire County Council. The Local Plan sets a housing requirement of 1,102 dwellings per annum between 2018 to 2040 resulting in a total dwelling requirement of 24,244 dwellings. In terms of employment, the Local Plan aims to create 24,000 FTE new jobs over the plan period.

East Lindsey

B.198 East Lindsey 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
- Horncastle – 5ha
- Spilsby – 3ha
- Louth –14ha

B.199 Work on a Local Plan has taken place, with an Issues and Options consultation in 2021/22. Regulation 19 consultation was scheduled for mid-2023, though no Draft Plan has yet been produced.

Hull

B.200 Hull is situated to the north of North East Lincolnshire within East Riding of Yorkshire County Council. The **Hull Local Plan** was adopted on 23 November 2017. The Local Plan sets out the vision and strategic priorities for the city up to 2032. The Local Plan sets a housing requirement of 32,336 at a rate of 2,021 dwellings per year. The Council identified that the overall requirement for general employment land could be expected to be in the order of 50ha to 70ha through its Employment Land Review in 2014. Work on a new Local Plan has commenced which will cover the period up to 2045. Consultation on the scope of the new Local Plan and an initial call for sites was launched in summer 2026, with a full Draft Plan scheduled for consultation in early 2028.

East Riding

B.201 East Riding Local Plan 2012 – 2029 is the Local Plan for the East Riding of Yorkshire, which is situated to the north of North East Lincolnshire. The East Riding Local Plan was adopted on 6 April 2016and provides the long term development plan for the East Riding up to 2029. The Local Plan sets a housing requirement of 23,800 at a rate of 1,400 dwellings per year, and the Council has established the need for 235 hectares of employment land on a broad range of sites. Development will be supported for B1, B2 and B8 uses. The Council adopted its Local Plan Update in April 2025, which makes provision for at least 20,900 (net) additional dwellings and 208ha of employment land. East Riding of Yorkshire Council has begun preparation of a new Local Plan covering the period up to 2045, with scoping consultation conducted in summer 2026 and a full Draft Plan due for publication in spring 2028.

Appendix C
Baseline Information

C.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.

C.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'].

C.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 Predictions

C.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 environmental, social and economic factors 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.

C.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 13]**.

C.6 The IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report (2023) highlights that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are predicted to continue to rise into 2030 making it likely that global warming will exceed 1.5°C, which in turn means that GHG emissions will become harder to maintain below 2°C. As a result of this, increased global warming will occur and elicit climate hazards such as increased incidences of heatwaves, droughts, increased global monsoon precipitation, tropical storms, very wet and very dry weather. Natural land and ocean carbon sinks will become less effective, sea levels will rise, become more acidic and experience deoxygenation amongst other climate events **[See reference** 14**]**. The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty involving 196 Parties. The overarching goal of this agreement is to limit global warming increasing to 1.5°C by the end of the century. Achieving this goal still requires a lot of action but since 2016 when the agreement was established, low–carbon solutions and new markets for climate resilience have been sparked.

C.7 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 15]**:

- Stay within a maximum cumulative carbon dioxide emissions budget of 7.4 million tonnes ($MtCO_2$) for the period of 2020 to 2100. At 2017 CO_2 emission levels, North East Lincolnshire would use this entire budget within 6 years from 2020.
- Initiate an immediate programme of CO_2 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 CO_2 reduction pathway that stays within the recommended maximum carbon budget of 7.4 $MtCO_2$. At 2040 5% of the budget remains. This represents very low levels of residual CO_2 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 CO_2 emissions are also

within the recommended budget, provided that interim budgets with lower cumulative CO_2 emissions are also adopted.

C.8 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 16]**.

C.9 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 agreement **[See reference** 17**]**. This superseded the Nottingham Declaration, seeking to enhance the area's aspirations to become the renewable energy capital of the UK **[See reference 18]**.

Flood Risk and Climate Change

C.10 The UK Climate Projections (UKCP18) predicts that by 2070, under a high emission scenario, average winter precipitation is projected to increase, whilst average summer rainfall is projected to decrease. Although summer rainfall is projected to decrease, there will be an increased frequency of short lived high intensity showers **[See reference** 19**]**.

C.11 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, the most recent decade 2015–2024 has been 2% wetter than 1991–2020 and 10% wetter than 1961–1990 whilst winters have been 6%/16% wetter. Alternatively, hotter drier summers and less predictable rainfall as a result of climate change may lead to increased drought risk and possible water shortages in the UK **[See reference 20]**. The Environment Agency's estimate is that summer rainfall is expected to decrease by approximately 15% by the 2050s in England, and by up to 22% by the 2080s; and that by 2100 in the south-east we will increasingly see temperatures above 35°C, and sometimes 40°C **[See reference** 21**]**.

C.12 With 2025 recorded as the warmest and sunniest year on record in the UK, England recorded its driest spring in over 130 years and drought conditions were declared across parts of England and Wales. In total, the rainfall for 2025 2025 was 1041.2 mm – this is 90% of the 1991 – 2020 decade average **[See reference** 22**]**.

C.13 Both urban and rural parts of North East Lincolnshire will become more vulnerable to fluvial and coastal flooding, water supply deficiencies, subsidence and sea level rises, as the local climate continues to change.

C.14 Increasing risks of flooding could lead to negative impacts on local habitats or species and pose a threat to an increasing number of properties. All new buildings will therefore need to be built in appropriate locations that minimise, or successfully mitigate against these predicted risks, as well as being designed in such a way to maximise their adaptability to climate change in the future. Planning Practice Guidance states if '*proposed development cannot be made safe throughout its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere, it should not be permitted'* and that avoidance of flood risk should be the primary consideration.

C.15 With increased potential for flooding exacerbated by the changing climate, the effective management of surface water caused by heavy rain (or from any other source) is essential for reducing flood risk. In light of this, The North and North East Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment **[See reference** 23**]** published in 2022 provides guidance on the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) within the authority area, highlighting the importance of natural solutions to managing flood risk through permeable surfaces, green roofs, filter drains, bio-retention areas or basins. The guidance affirms that all planning applications will require a site-specific Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment showing that a full range of SuDS techniques have been considered.

Carbon Dioxide Emissions

C.16 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.

C.17 The Government regularly publishes Local Authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics. Emissions for North East Lincolnshire between 2005--2024 have fallen from 13.6t per capita to 6.0t per capita **[See reference 24]**. Per capita emissions in the plan area within the scope of influence of the local authorities fell most years between 2005 and 2024 as shown in Table C.1. It should be noted the figures in Table C.1 do not account for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) figures in North East Lincolnshire. In 2024, LULUCF accounted for 3.6Kt carbon dioxide emissions in North East Lincolnshire.

Table C.1: Carbon dioxide emissions estimate in North East Lincolnshire 2005-2024 [See reference 25]

Year	Grand Total (kt CO2e)	Per Capita Emissions (t)
2005	2,152.1	13.6
2006	2,091.3	13.2
2007	1,923.3	12.1
2008	1,874.8	11.8
2009	1,663.8	10.5
2010	1,745.4	11.0
2011	1,581.8	9.9
2012	1,648.2	10.3
2013	1,611.6	10.1
2014	1,505.0	9.4
2015	1,288.4	8.1
2016	1,289.4	8.1
2017	1,272.4	8.0
2018	1,286.3	8.1
2019	1,196.7	7.6
2020	1,103.4	7.0
2021	1,143.0	7.3
2022	1,004.4	6.4
2023	924.2	5.8
2024	954.5	6.0

C.18 In Yorkshire and the Humber, carbon dioxide emissions have fallen from 10.4t per capita to 4.8t per capita (equivalent to a 53.8% reduction) from 2005 to 2024. Emissions for North East Lincolnshire have equalled the wider Yorkshire and the Humber levels for this period, falling from 13.6t per capita to 6.0t per capita (equivalent to a 55% reduction).

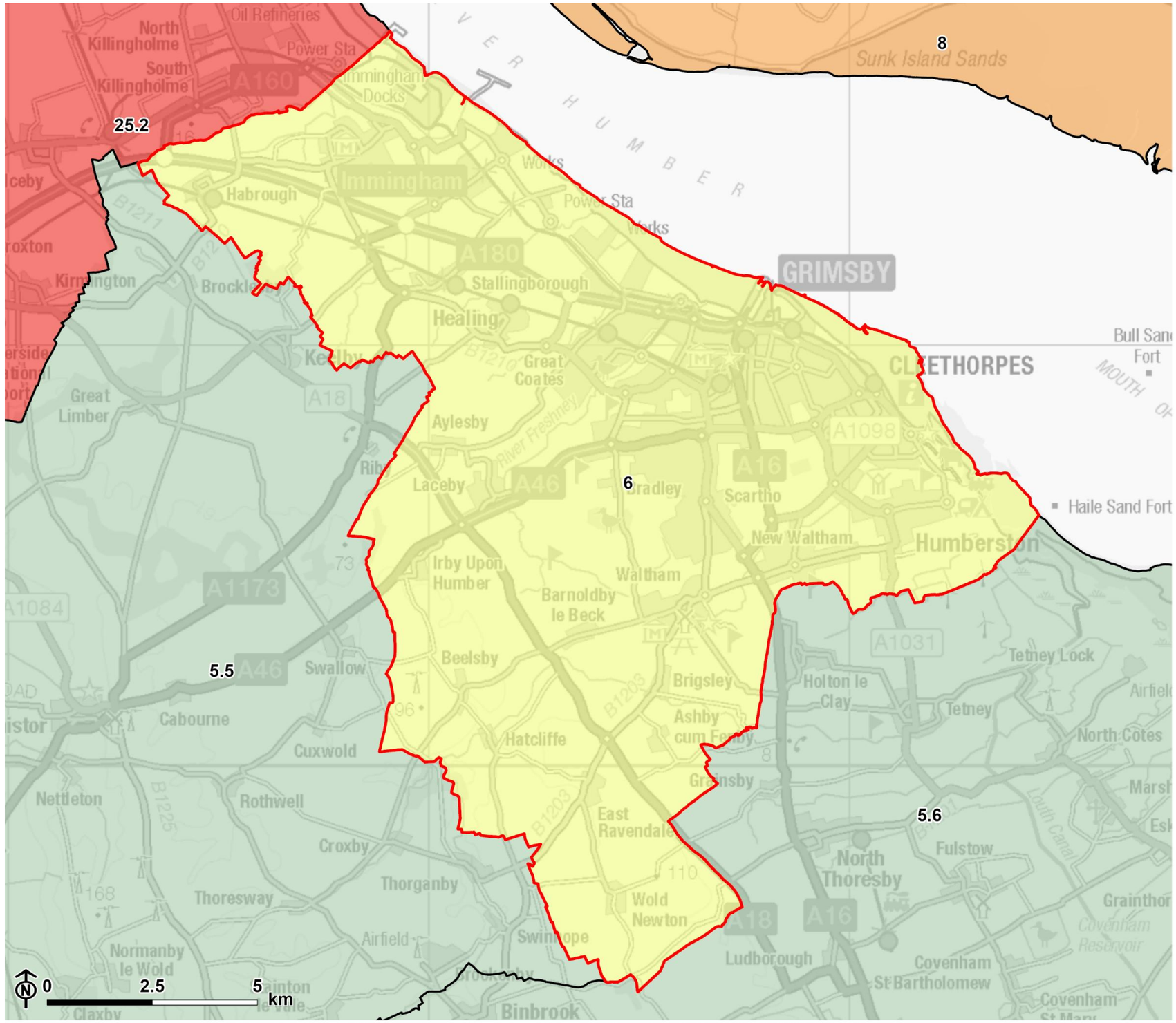
C.19 In Yorkshire and the Humber and North East Lincolnshire the main contributor of emissions was from industrial sources. However, between 2005 and 2024, the levels of emissions from industry have dropped significantly for Yorkshire and Humber and North East Lincolnshire, with a 57.7% and 60.7% decrease respectively. This is shown in Table C.2.

Table C.2: Changes in carbon dioxide emissions by sector for the region and District between 2005 and 2024

Source of Emissions	Yorkshire and the Humber region – 2005	Yorkshire and the Humber region – 2024	North East Lincolnshire – 2005	North East Lincolnshire – 2024
Industry	19,316.4	8,172.6	1,089.5	428.1
Commercial	6,144.5	1,985.7	240.9	85.1
Public Sector	2,072.5	729.2	60.1	20.1
Domestic	13,098.6	6,341.7	400.8	178.5
Transport	11,633.7	9,569.1	340.3	227.2
Grand Total	**52,265.7**	**26,798.3**	**2,131.6**	**1,339**

C.20 Figure C.1 overleaf shows the per capita CO_2 emissions of North East Lincolnshire compared to neighbouring authorities. It is evident that CO_2 emissions per capita are higher in North East Lincolnshire compared to neighbouring authorities, apart from North Lincolnshire which has significantly higher emissions.

Figure C.1: Per Capita CO2 Emissions Compared to Neighbouring Authorities



Created by LUC - Figure C.1: Per Capita CO2 Emissions Compared to Neighbouring Authorities/ 30/07/2026
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Overall Energy Consumption

C.21 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy produced the following consumption figures for North East Lincolnshire in 2024 **[See reference 26]**:

- All fuels – A total of 302.9Ktoe across domestic, transport and industrial and commercial use.
- Coal – A total of 0.7Ktoe predominantly through industrial and commercial use.
- Manufactured fuels – A total of 17.8Ktoe through domestic and industrial and commercial use.
- Petroleum – A total of 86.2Ktoe predominantly from road transport.
- Gas – A total of 129.2Ktoe predominantly through domestic use.
- Electricity – A total of 59.1Ktoe through domestic and industrial and commercial use.
- Bioenergy and wastes – A total of 10.1Ktoe predominantly through industrial and commercial use.

C.22 The changes in consumption by energy type for North East Lincolnshire are shown in Table C.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 2024.

Table C.3: Energy consumption in North East Lincolnshire by type

Energy Type	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2005)	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2024)
Coal	4.3	0.7
Manufactured Fuels	17.2	17.8
Petroleum	132.6	86.2
Gas	351.6	29.2
Electricity	82.2	59.1

Energy Type	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2005)	Energy Consumption in Ktoe (2024)
Bioenergy and Wastes	2.1	0.1
Total	590	183.1

Renewable Energy

C.23 Renewable energy is recognised as an important contributor to reducing reliance on fossil fuels and adapting to climate change. Within Yorkshire and Humber, there was a total of 131,313 sites that were capable of generating renewable energy across wind, solar, wave, hydro and biomass renewable sources in 2024. This represents 7.7% of all the sites within the UK that generate renewable energy. In 2024, Yorkshire and Humber generated a total of 35,228.2 GWh (Gigawatt hours) of renewable energy. This is a 89.6% increase in renewable energy generation since 2011 **[See reference** 27**]**. In 2023, there was a total of 3,024 photovoltaic panels and 4 onshore wind turbines of installation in Westmorland and Furness **[See reference** 28**]**.

C.24 North East Lincolnshire has emerged as a key player in the renewable energy revolution with potential to become the UK capital of the offshore wind industry. The Council's vision is that by 2032, North East Lincolnshire will be nationally and internationally recognised as the UK's leading region for low-carbon energy and the UK capital of the renewable energy industry **[See reference** 29**]**.

C.25 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 30]**.

C.26 Grimsby is very much front and centre in supporting wind farm development. Investments in offshore wind began around 2011 with the Lynn and Inner Dowsing windfarms and the area continues to grow as further projects are developed. Siemens, Centrica, Eon and Ørsted as owner / operators have committed to a long-term future at the Port of Grimsby and with them driving a supply chain of major manufacturers and component suppliers, support services and vessels **[See reference** 31**]**.

C.27 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.

C.28 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.

C.29 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 32]**.

Air Quality

C.30 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.

C.31 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.

C.32 During 2024, no exceedances of the NO2 annual mean objective were identified within the existing AQMA, continuing the trend observed since 2018 which supported the move to revoke the AQMA in 2024. Additionally, the NO2 annual mean air quality objective was not exceeded at any monitoring location outside of the AQMA during 2024. Relative to 2023, the NO2 annual mean concentration also decreased at all three automatic monitoring sites within North East Lincolnshire in 2023. This decrease in NO2 across both the diffusion

tube network and automatic monitoring network continues the post covid trend in concentrations seen in 2023. **[See reference 33]**.

Air Quality Management Areas

C.33 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.

C.34 There are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) within North East Lincolnshire. Previously, the area had two QMAs: Grimsby AQMA and Immingham AQMA. 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. While the Grimsby AQMA was revoked on 22nd May 2024 North East Lincolnshire Council remain committed to improving air quality within the local area. While preparing for the revocation of the AQMA, North East Lincolnshire revised the monitoring locations within the area and added a further 8 diffusion tube locations in 2023 **[See reference** 34**]**. 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 PM_{10} concentrations in the area.

C.35 In conjunction with the Government's Clean Air Strategy (2019) and encouragement from 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 35]**:

- 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

C.36 Geographically, North East Lincolnshire is a relatively small area, covering 74 square miles (192km^2) on the east coast of England, at the mouth of the Humber Estuary in the Yorkshire and the Humber region.

C.37 The population of North East Lincolnshire was 159,911 in 2024 compared to the 2011 census, when 159,616 people lived in the plan area. The estimated population of North East Lincolnshire in 2021 was 156,966 and it is projected to decline slightly to 155,449 by 2047 **[See reference 36]**.

C.38 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 37]**:

- 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.

C.39 Across these spatial zones lie 15 wards and 18 settlements.

C.40 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 C.4 below presents the most recent estimates of population by ward in North East Lincolnshire as of 2024.

Table C.4: Estimate populations by ward in North east Lincolnshire Council for 2024 [See reference 38]

Ward	Estimated Population (as of 2024)
Croft Baker	11,060
East Marsh	11,083
Freshney	9,130
Haverstoe	9,435
Heneage	11,621
Humberson and New Waltham	13,097
Immingham	11,911
Park	12,020
Scartho	11,704
Sidney Sussex	11,808
South	12,324
Waltham	6,851
West Marsh	8,127
Wolds	8,039
Yarborough	11,701

Housing

C.41 In 2025, it was estimated by the Office for National Statistics that the median average home in England, at £3000,000, cost 7.6 times the median average earnings of a full-time employee (£39,000). Affordability in England and Wales in 2024 has returned to its pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic levels after a sharp increase between 2020 and 2021 (worsening affordability); median house sales prices have increased by 5% since 2021, while average earnings have increased by 25% **[See reference** 39**]**. The Housing affordability ratio is defined as housing affordability estimates calculated by dividing house prices by annual earnings to create a ratio. It can be used to compare affordability over time and between areas. A larger number reflects a less affordable area **[See reference** 40**]**.

C.42 In 2025, in North East Lincolnshire the total dwelling stock was 75,954, this up from the 2009 total of 71,937 by 5.6% **[See reference** 41**]**.

C.43 At the local level, housing affordability has improved in 213 out of 318 local authorities in England and Wales (67%) and worsened in 103 (32%) since 2024. In the 318 local authority areas in England and Wales in 2025, average house prices increased by 5% since 2021, while average earnings have increased by 25%. In North East Lincolnshire, the housing affordability ratio was 4.63 in 2025, and like other local authorities, this has steadily increased over the last 20 years. This figure remains lower than the average ratio for both England on a national level (7.63), and Yorkshire and the Humber on a regional level (5.80) **[See reference 42]**.

C.44 The average house price for a property in North East Lincolnshire as of April 2026 was £149,911, which in comparison to the regional average (Yorkshire and the Humber – £207,974) and the national average (England – £291,445) is significantly lower **[See reference 43]**.

C.45 The 2025 Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment identifies a baseline local housing need (LHN) of around 603 dwellings per year from 2025 to 2043. The Assessment estimates a net growth of 8,602 new jobs in line with an LHN of 622 dwellings per acre **[See reference** 44**]**.

C.46 A total of 4,230 dwellings have been built since the start date of the adopted Local Plan (1st April 2013) as shown in Table C.5 (below). This results in an undersupply of 589 dwellings.

Table C.5: Undersupply of homes in North East Lincolnshire from 2013-2025 [See reference 45]

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
2021/2022	206	524	
2022/2023	208	423	
2023/2024	-	459	
2024/2025	**649**	**402**	**247**

C.47 Table C.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 3,245 dwellings.

Table C.6: Five year housing requirement in North east Lincolnshire from 2025-26 to 2029-30 [See reference 46]

Year	Annual Requirement
2025/26	649
2026/27	649
2027/28	649

Year	Annual Requirement
2028/29	649
2029/2030	649
Total	**3,245**

C.48 Table C.7 below presents the net additions for North East Lincolnshire between 2010 to 2024 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 C.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
2016-2017	276
2018-2019	186
2019-2020	248
2020-2021	244
2021-2022	524

Year	Dwellings
2022-2023	423
2023-2024	459

C.49 The latest Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment **[See reference** 47**]** found:

- In line with wider trends, older household groups are projected to see the fastest growth in North East Lincolnshire, increasing by 34.4% for single households and 26.3% for couple/other households between 2022 and 2042. Growth of households with younger single people is expected to be 6.8%, whilst the number of families with children is projected to increase by 11.7%. Overall household growth is expected to be around 14.6% in the period 2025-2043.
- Based on overall household growth and existing occupancy patterns, our assessment indicates that housing need in North East Lincolnshire is predominantly made up of 2-3 bedroom dwellings. This takes into account the fact that although older households are likely to make up the majority of future household growth, these often remain in their large family home, are the least active in the housing market and tend to occupy housing larger than they 'need'.
- Housing waiting list information shows that most households in need of affordable housing required 1 or 2-bed dwellings; however, the waiting list and Census data both show that overcrowding remains a problem. Within the social rented sector, there is likely to be some scope for more efficient use of the existing stock.
- In this context, it is recommended that for market housing, between 20% and 40% of housing should be for smaller 1 or 2 bed properties. For social housing, between 55%- 75% of the social housing provision should be for smaller 1 and 2-bed properties, with the majority of the remainder comprising 3 and 4-bed properties.

C.50 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.

C.51 As of 2025, there were a total of 75,860 domestic properties within North East Lincolnshire. In terms of housing type, North East Lincolnshire contains largely more terraced housing with a lower number of flats and detached housing - 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 2025, there were 1,355 long-term vacant dwellings in North East Lincolnshire (e.g. for more than six months). This equates to 42.1% of dwellings in North East Lincolnshire that are long term vacant which is higher than the Yorkshire and The Humber region at 37.4% and the national figure of 36.8% **[See reference 48]**.

C.52 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 49]**.

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

C.53 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 50]**. The 2026 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment found that there are nine Gypsy or Traveller households in North East Lincolnshire that meet the planning definition. There is a need for five pitches emerging from the nine households that met the planning definition, and no pitches required resulting from undetermined household status. This pitch quotient is required for the period 2026/27 – 2043/44. 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 **[See reference 51]**.

Health

C.54 Health is a cross-cutting topic and as such many topic areas explored in this Scoping Report influence health either directly or indirectly. In the 2021 Census, 43.1% of people in North East Lincolnshire describe themselves as in very good health, 35.4% good health, 15.2% fair health, 4.9% bad health and

1.4% very bad health. The 2021 Census found that the percentage of people disabled under the Equality Act (i.e. day to day activities limited a lot) in North East Lincolnshire was 20.9% which is above the England and Wales (17.8%) and Yorkshire and Humber (18.9%) averages.

C.55 North East Lincolnshire Council published its Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy in 2025, which sets out six strategic aims for the period 2025-2035 **[See reference** 52**]**:

- Increase healthy life expectancy
- Reduce health inequalities
- Narrow the gap in health outcomes between our most
- Improve mental wellbeing
- Make public health everyone's business
- Embed prevention and early intervention
- Create a fairer, greener, and more inclusive borough.

C.56 These aims were developed in response to the key health and wellbeing issues facing North East Lincolnshire **[See reference** 53**]**:

- North East Lincolnshire is the 29th most deprived local authority in England (out of 317) according to the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation.
- Two wards — East Marsh and West Marsh — are in the most deprived 1% nationally, with five wards in the most deprived 10% (East Marsh, West Marsh, South, Sidney Sussex, and Heneage).
- The most deprived areas are concentrated around the historic docklands in Grimsby, characterised by dense, early 20th-century terraced housing, much of which is now in poor condition and within the private rental sector.
- NEL has worse-than-average outcomes across a range of indicators including life expectancy, obesity, alcohol-related conditions, self-harm and premature mortality.
- NEL's coastal location and historical reliance on fishing and tourism have contributed to economic decline and population churn. The area experiences outmigration of younger people seeking education and employment elsewhere; in-migration of older adults, increasing demand for health and care services; and poor transport connectivity, limiting access to employment and services for those without private vehicles.

- A local survey found that 9 in 10 residents work within the borough, highlighting limited economic mobility.

Life Expectancy

C.57 Life expectancy at birth in 2025 in North East Lincolnshire was 75.3 years for males and 82.2 years for females, which is slightly lower than the regional average values of 78.8 years and 82.8 years, respectively. North East Lincolnshire is the lowest of the fourteen recorded Yorkshire and Humber regions for male life expectancy at birth and sixth lowest for female life expectancy **[See reference 54]**.

Obesity and Physical Activity Levels

C.58 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.

C.59 According to data from the Office for National Statistics, North Lincolnshire had an obesity rate of 34.4%, with North East Lincolnshire at 29.9% - well above the England-wide average of 26.6% **[See reference** 55**]**. In particular, childhood obesity is high in North East Lincolnshire with approximately 26.1% of children aged 10 to 11 living as obese. This is above the England wide average of 22.2% **[See reference** 56**]**.

C.60 On average, 63% of adults were physically active in 2024/2025 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. In relation to children and young people, 47% were physically active in 2024/25 **[See reference 57]**.

C.61 Around 20% of people were recorded as doing no physical activity at all, whilst 31% were deemed ‘inactive’ in 2022/23. The ‘inactive’ figure includes people who carry out low-intensity exercise (10%) and exercise over a very short duration (1%) **[See reference** 58**]**. The figure for inactivity was higher than the national average of 25.7% **[See reference 59]**.

C.62 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 60]**.

Perception of Well-being

C.63 Residents of North East Lincolnshire reported having lower levels of life satisfaction (7.71 out of 10.00) than the average for UK (7.45) in the 2022/23 period. Whilst average figures recorded relating to 'feeling the things done in life are worthwhile' were higher than the UK (8.02 and 7.73, respectively) 'happiness' in North East Lincolnshire was also higher (at 7.82 and 7.39, respectively). Levels of high anxiety recorded for North East Lincolnshire were 2.94% in this period. This was a decrease of 19% from the previous period (2021-2022). The percentage of high anxiety (20.06%) was lower than the regional average (24.9%) and the England average (24.24%) in the 2021/22 period **[See reference 61]**.

Open Space

C.64 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 62]**.

C.65 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 63]**.

C.66 Table C.8 below identifies the current provision of green space in North East Lincolnshire.

Table C.8: Current provision of green space in North east Lincolnshire [See reference 64]

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

C.67 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.

C.68 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.

C.69 Green and blue infrastructure, which is made up of natural assets and green/blue corridors, provides important connections between places and can help achieve multiple benefits, including opportunities for increased physical activity, a space for wellbeing and a place to connect, as well as providing environmental benefits such as providing resilience against climate impacts, including flooding and overheating.

C.70 North East Lincolnshire Council's Natural Assets Plan highlights the importance of Green Infrastructure (GI) in tackling climate change and improving public health. A public consultation for the Plan comprising of a

survey on climate change and the environment took place in August/September 2021. The results of the consultation found that the respondents felt it was important for us to improve biodiversity within the borough, with 81% feeling that this was extremely important and very important to them. Over 90% thought that green infrastructure should be a key method used by us to tackle climate change, and that it is extremely important that green infrastructure is improved in central areas such as policy and planning, air quality, water management, education and community involvement, trees and woodland, and parks and open spaces. Respondents also felt that health and wellbeing should be a key consideration for improving green infrastructure **[See reference** 65**]**.

Deprivation

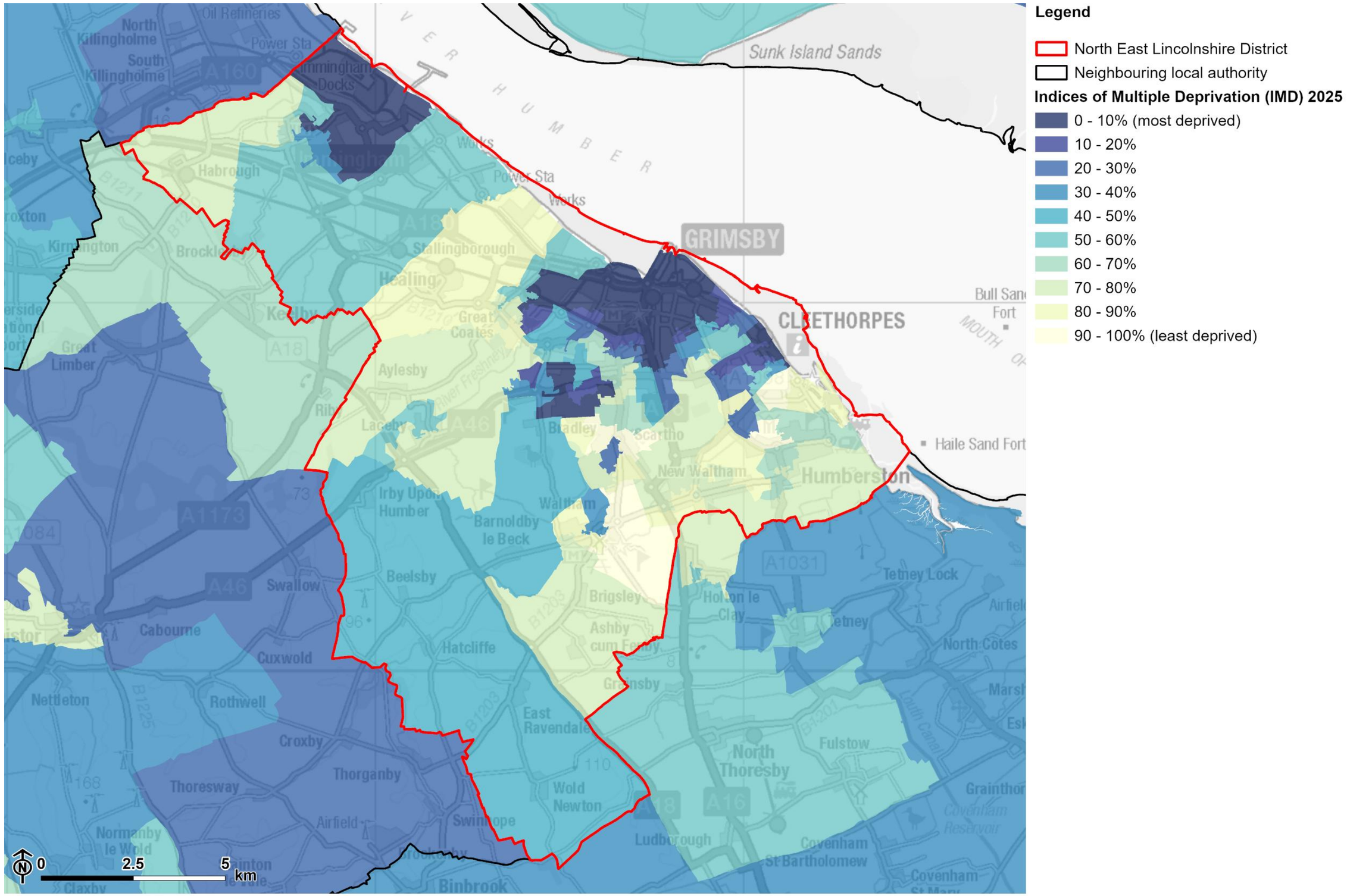
C.71 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) uses Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA) to measure deprivation at local authority and county level. The seven distinct domains of deprivation (Income; Employment; Health Deprivation and Disability: Education and Skills Training; Crime: Barriers to Housing and Services: and Living Environment) which when weighted and combined from the IMD 2025 have been mapped for the District.

C.72 In 2025, 27.1% 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 living environment domain which considers the quality of the local environment with 16.8% of LSOAs falling within the 10% least deprived.

C.73 Roughly 12.3% of households within North East Lincolnshire live in fuel poverty which is above the national (9.9%) and regional (11.3%) average. 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 66]**.

C.74 Figure C.2 displays the variations in deprivation across North East Lincolnshire.

Figure C.2: Indices of Multiple Deprivation



Created by LUC - Figure C.2: Indices of Multiple Deprivation/ 30/07/2026
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Data produced by MHCLG, 2025. Boundaries used for data provided by ONS.

Crime and Safety

C.75 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.

C.76 Between April 2025 and March 2026, 19,640 crimes were counted in North East Lincolnshire. North East Lincolnshire saw a drop in monthly crime rates per 1,000 since July 2025 where rates were 12.4 per 1,000 to 10.4 per 1,000 in March 2026. When considering crime by type, violence and sexual offences and violence and criminal damage and shoplifting are the highest types of crime at a crime count of 8,136 and 2,486 of all crime respectively **[See reference 67]**.

Economy

C.77 Nationally, employment rates have continued to increase. North East Lincolnshire's employment rate consistently remained below the national average. North East Lincolnshire's employment rate for December 2025 was 71.5%, lower than the regional Yorkshire and Humber rate (73.2) and the national rate (75.8%). In April 2026 the total number of claimants was 4,065. The claimants by gender (4.3) is below the regional (4.1) and national (4) levels **[See reference 68]**.

C.78 In 2023, the total output (Gross Value Added, GVA) in North East Lincolnshire reached £3.868 million. The trend in GVA has been steadily increasing over the years for North East Lincolnshire **[See reference 69]**.

C.79 The median annual pay in 2025 in North East Lincolnshire was £42,634 for male full time workers and £28,898 for female full time workers which is higher than the median annual pay in England for males (£42,157) and lower than the national average for females (£35,674) **[See reference 70]**.

C.80 As of December 2025, 71.5% of people in North East Lincolnshire were economically active. Across the Yorkshire and The Humber region this figure is higher at 73.2% within the same period. 6.9% of males and 6.8% of females in North East Lincolnshire are unemployed, while the unemployment rate for the UK was 5.1%. As of March 2026, 25,290 people between age 16-65 were on universal credit. This equates to 26.5% of people aged 16-65 in North East Lincolnshire. The number of claimants is higher than the regional and national figures at 21.5% and 19.2% respectively **[See reference 71]**.

C.81 Official Labour Market Statistics data presented in Table C.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 72]**.

Table C.9: Employee jobs in North east Lincolnshire in relation to regional and national averages (2023)

Employee Jobs by Industry	North East Lincolnshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	Great Britain
Mining and quarrying	0%	0.1%	0.2%
Manufacturing	14.7%	10.4%	7.3%
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	1.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7%	0.9%	0.7%
Construction	5.1%	5.4%	5.0%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.2%	14.6%	13.7%
Transportation and storage	8.8%	5.4%	5%
Accommodation and food service activities	7.4%	7.3%	7.8%
Information and communication	0.5%	2.5%	4.5%
Financial and insurance activities	0.7%	2.7%	3.4%
Real estate activities	1.0%	1.4%	1.9%
Professional, scientific and technical, activities	5.1%	7.6%	9.3%

Employee Jobs by Industry	North East Lincolnshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	Great Britain
Administrative and support service activities	5.9%	8.5%	8.6%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2.6%	5.0%	4.9%
Education	7.4%	9.0%	8.6%
Human health and social work activities	19.1%	14.8%	14.2%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.2%	2.4%	2.5%
Other service activities	1.5%	1.8%	1.9%

C.82 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 73]**. As of 2024, there were 5,035 active enterprises with 555 new enterprises in 2024. 95% of businesses have a survival rate of one year with 41% of businesses expected to survive five years **[See reference 74]**.

C.83 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.

C.84 As identified in the Renewable Energy section, Siemens, Centrica, Eon and Ørsted as owner / operators have committed to a long-term future at the Port of Grimsby and with them driving a supply chain of major manufacturers and component suppliers, support services and vessels **[See reference 75]**, producing significant economic benefits for the area.

C.85 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.

C.86 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.

C.87 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 7.6% of local jobs to the area and generates an income of around £0.5 billion for North East Lincolnshire **[See reference 76]**.

C.88 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

C.89 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 77]**. 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 78]**.

C.90 North East Lincolnshire has a variety of transport links. These can be seen on Figure C.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.

C.91 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 79]**.

C.92 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.

C.93 Commuting trends are demonstrated in Figure C.3 below **[See reference 80]**.

Figure C.3: Flows of commuters in and out of North East Lincolnshire (total)

Commuting totals for North East Lincolnshire:

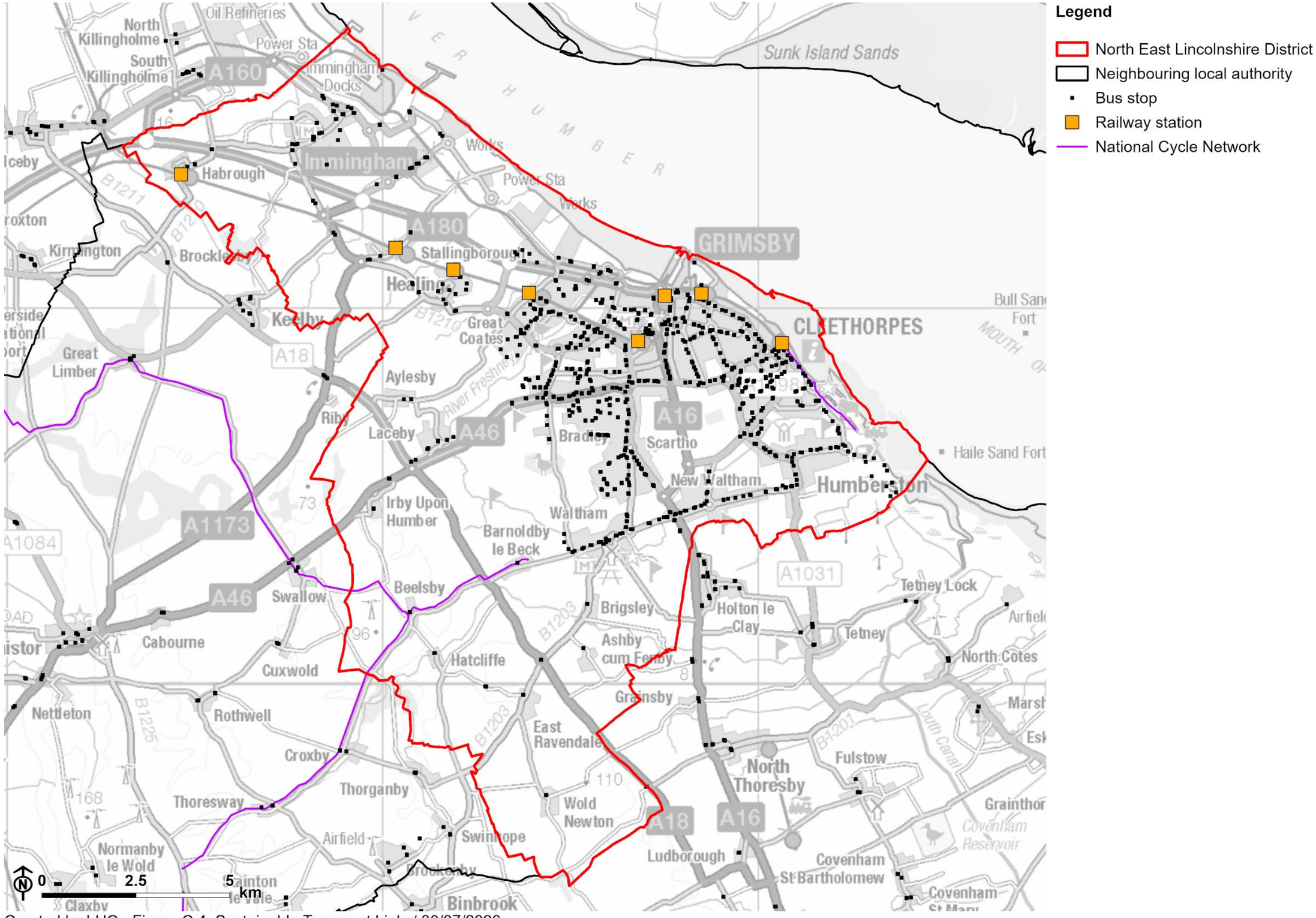
- Inflow: 11,620 all persons commute into North East Lincolnshire from other local authorities in the UK.
- Outflow: 11,267 all persons commute out of North East Lincolnshire to other local authorities in the UK or abroad.
- Net change: Overall, commuting results in a population increase of 353 all persons in North East Lincolnshire.

C.94 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.

C.95 The Department for Transport (DfT) defines a Travel Plan as 'a package of measures tailored to the needs of individual sites and aimed at promoting greener, cleaner travel choices and reducing reliance on the car. In 2016 NELC commissioned residential personalised travel plans to be delivered within a

small localised area of the borough, in order to better understand the transport needs of the local residents and assess the different modes of transport which they currently have available. This was done through several Travel Advisors going door to door gathering information on how they currently make their most regular journeys and then providing them with information regarding the more sustainable modes of transport which they have available to them. Interaction and engagement during the delivery of all three stages of the project was exceptional, with many residents enthused to sign up in order to receive a personalised travel plan. With more residents aware of the sustainable transport modes, a shift towards more sustainable transport choices is anticipated. This includes cycling, walking and public transport, which will inspire both current and future residents to explore their travel options, lead a healthier, more active lifestyle and switch to sustainable modes of transport.

Figure C.4: Sustainable Transport Links



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Land and Water

Geology and Minerals

C.96 Mineral resources in North East Lincolnshire fall into the following categories **[See reference 81]**:

- 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.

C.97 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.

C.98 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

C.99 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 C.5.

C.100 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 (2022) **[See reference 82]** are to tackle the extent of historic river modification, tackle pollution from rural areas and tackle pollution from waste water.

C.101 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 2022 **[See reference 83]**. 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 – Does not require assessment
- Mawnbridge Drain:
  - Ecological status – Moderate
  - Chemical status – Does not require assessment
- Laceby Beck/River Freshney Catchment (to N Sea):
  - Ecological status – Moderate
  - Chemical status – Does not require assessment
- Buck Beck from Source to N Sea:
  - Ecological status – Moderate
  - Chemical status – Does not require assessment
- Waithe Beck lower catchment (to Tetney Lock):
  - Ecological status – Moderate

- Chemical status – Does not require assessment

C.102 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'**.** It is important that there is no deterioration in water bodies as a result of new development.

C.103 A study conducted by the Environment Agency in early 2022 has indicated that the South Humber region is 'seriously' water stressed in their assessment of water availability. Water stress in the Humber region is forecast to increase due to climate change and growing demands for water from domestic and industrial use. Current pathways forecast that the Humber could be in a water deficit before 2030 **[See reference** 84**]**.

C.104 The River Freshney flows south-west to north-east through North East Lincolnshire, emptying into the Humber at Grimsby. In 2022 it was classified as ''poor' ecological status and did not require assessment for chemical status **[See reference** 85**]**. 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 86]**.

C.105 The Lincolnshire chalk streams are a characteristic and attractive feature that has helped shape the Lincolnshire Wolds landscape over the past 10,000 years. Much of the rolling hills of the Lincolnshire Wolds has underlaying chalk that has been designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

C.106 North East Lincolnshire has one designated bathing water area. Cleethorpes (UK09000) is a popular resort with a sandy beach and promenade. Between 2021 and 2025 the water quality classification for Cleethorpes was 'good'; however this had declined from an 'excellent' rating in 2018 and 2019 **[See reference 87]**. A large area of North East Lincolnshire is designated as a Groundwater Source Protection Zone. Figure C.6 shows the Source Protection Zones in North East Lincolnshire.

C.107 Anglian Water provides for North East Lincolnshire's water supply and wastewater treatment. Anglian Water's Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) 2024 **[See reference 88]** sets out the key challenges the area faces

and the strategy for ensuring a safe, resilient water supply. The 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.

C.108 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 89]**. 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 C.5: Watercourses in North East Lincolnshire

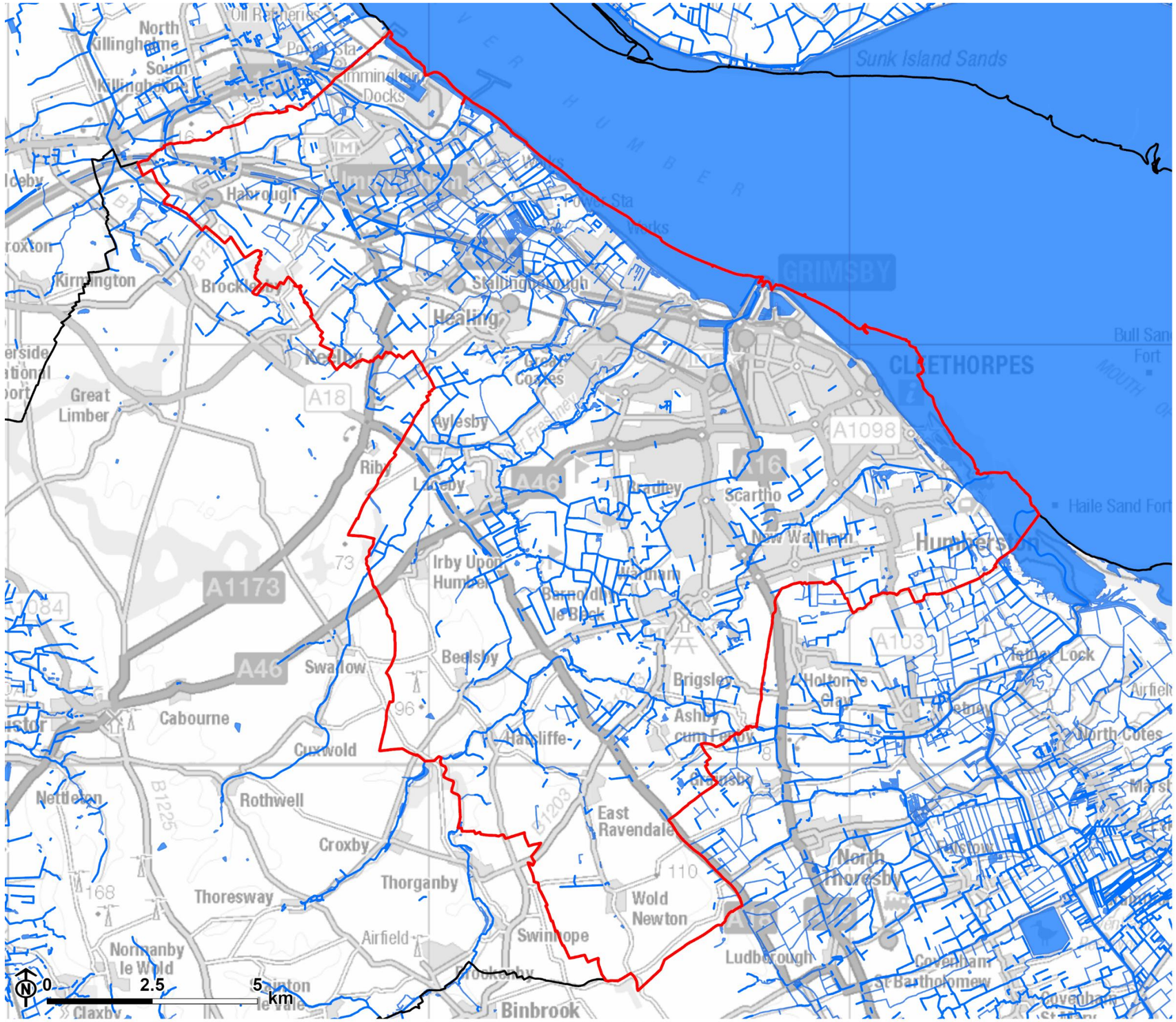

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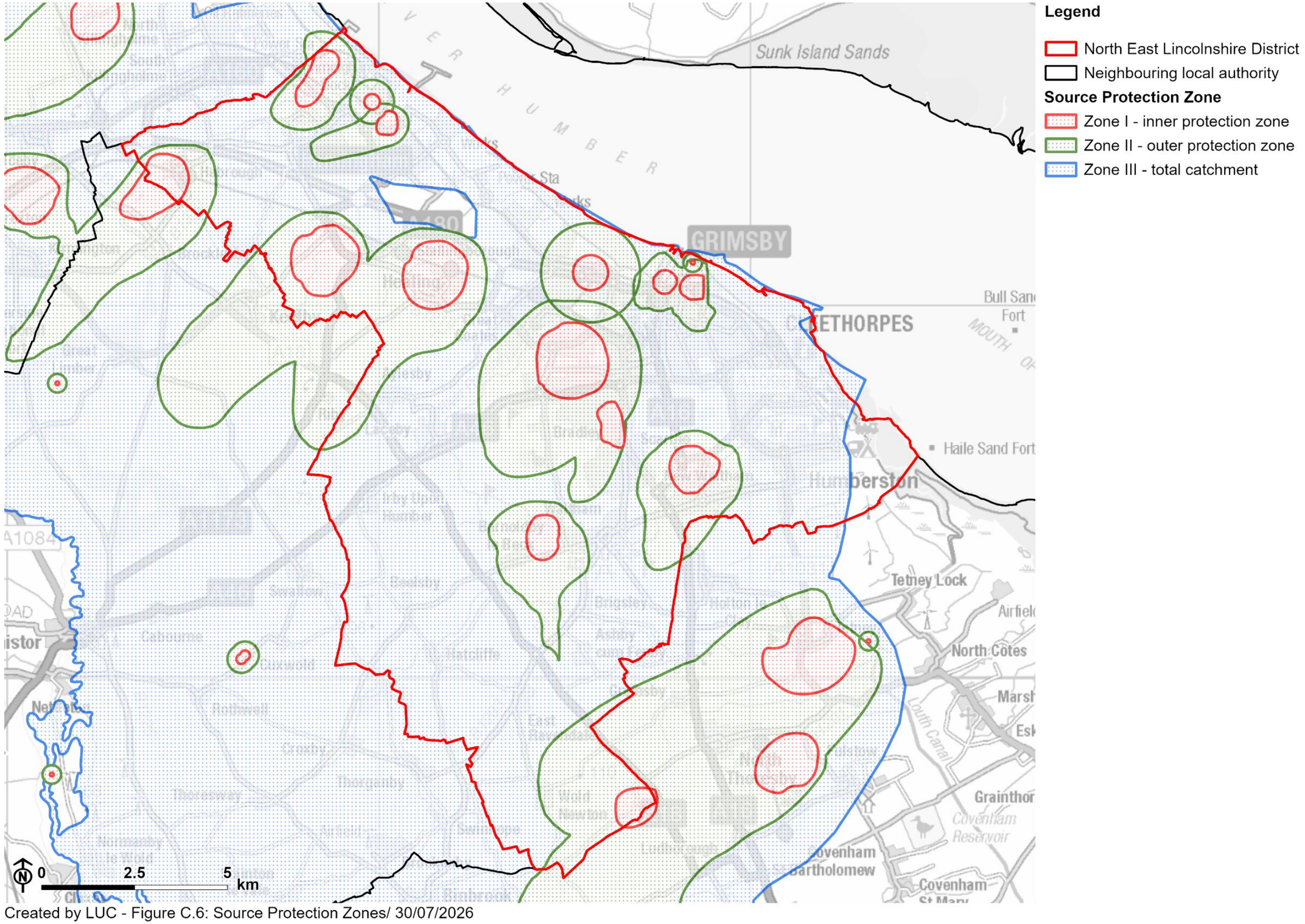
Figure C.6: Source Protection Zones



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Flood Risk

C.109 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 C.7. The coastline of North East Lincolnshire is protected by way of a sea wall maintained by the Environment Agency.

C.110 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 90]**.

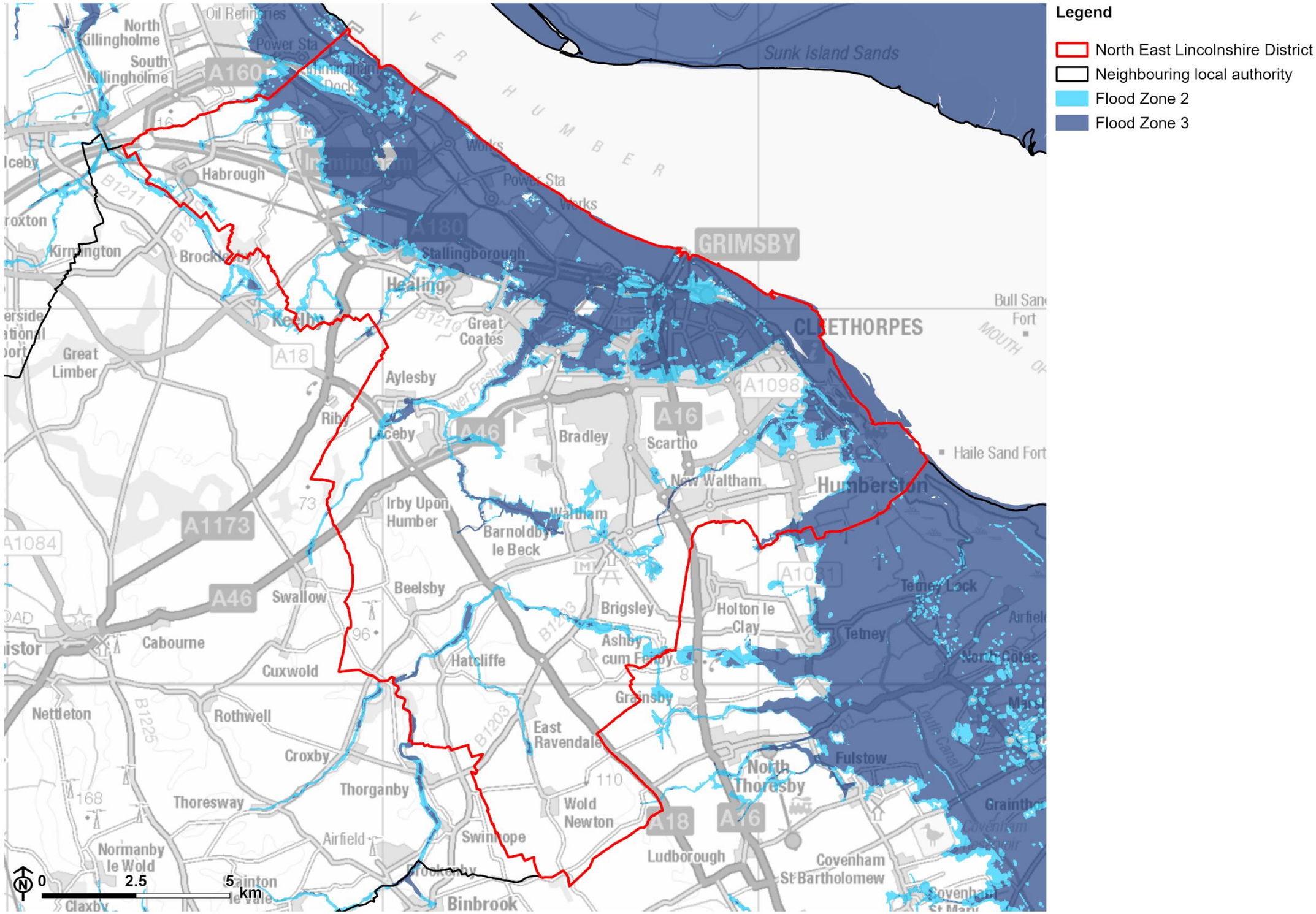
C.111 The Grimsby and Ancholme Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) was produced by the Environment Agency in 2009 **[See reference 91]**. The key issues it highlights for the area are:

- 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.

C.112 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 92]** 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 93]**.

Figure C.7: Flood Risk



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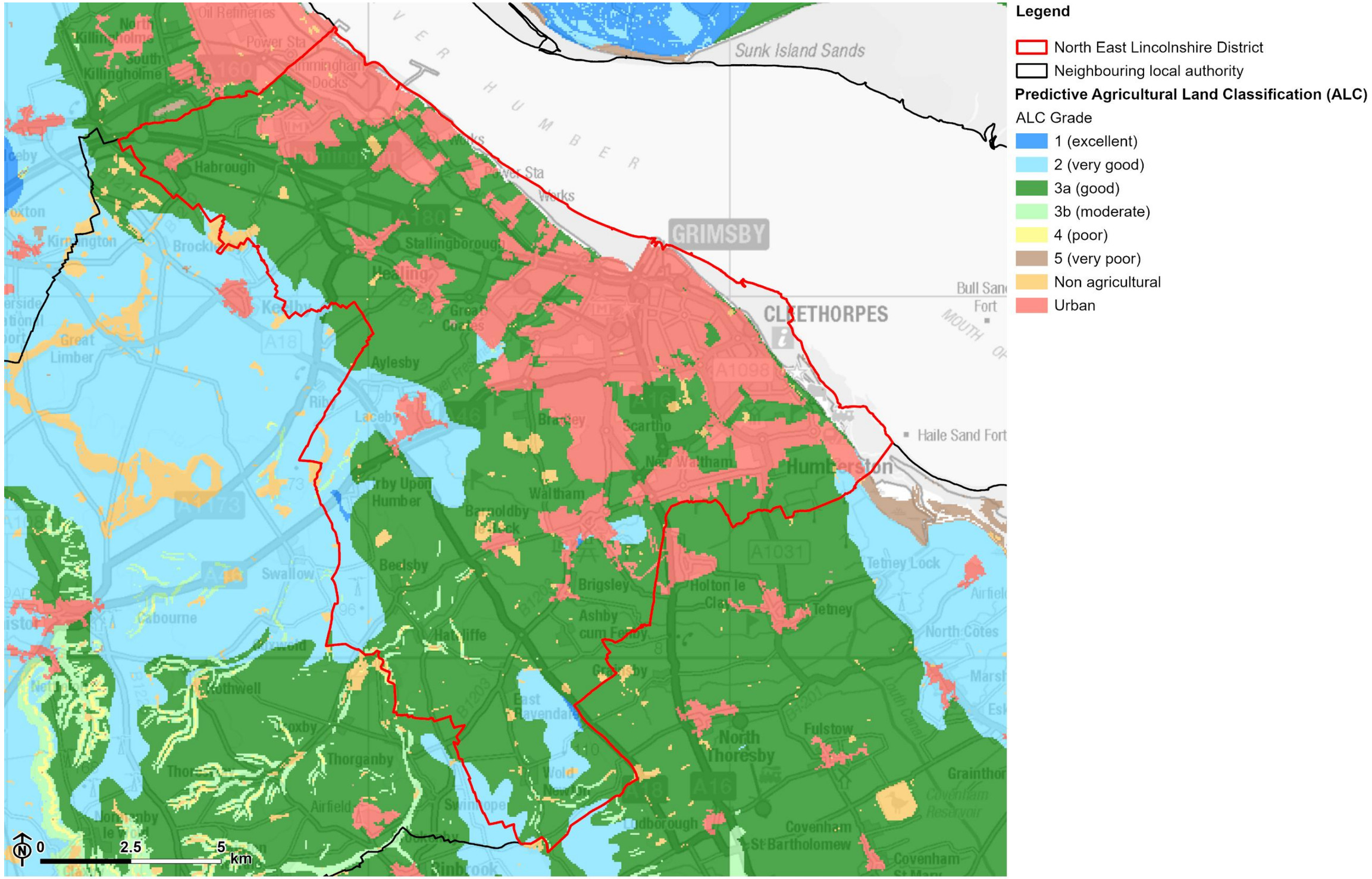
Soils

C.113 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system **[See reference 94]** 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.

C.114 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 95]**.

Figure C.8: Agricultural Land Classification



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Contaminated Land

C.115 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.

C.116 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.

C.117 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'

C.118 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 96]**.

Waste

C.119 Within North East Lincolnshire waste is produced from a variety of sources. As an authority, North East Lincolnshire is responsible for **[See reference 97]**:

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

C.120 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.

C.121 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.

C.122 North East Lincolnshire's Council's Waste Management Strategy 2020-2035 **[See reference 98]** 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.

C.123 A total of 71,590 tonnes of waste were collected in 2024-2025. Of the waste collected, 25,553 tonnes of waste was recycled. The remaining waste was either landfilled or incinerated. Therefore, North East Lincolnshire had a recycling rate of 35.7%. This is lower than the national average of 43.8%. Recycling rates in the Yorkshire and The Humber have been steadily increasing since 2000; however the rates started to plateau in 2012 **[See reference 99]**.

C.124 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 100]**.

C.125 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 101]**.

Waste Management Sites

C.126 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.

C.127 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 incineration plant operated by PAPREC Energies Grimsby Operations Ltd 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 102]**.

Biodiversity

C.128 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 103]**.

C.129 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 104]**. 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.

C.130 The Humber Estuary is a key attraction for visitors and recreational pressure has been identified as a key issue. The Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Humber Estuary SPA and SAC reports public access and disturbance is a pressure on the qualifying features of both sites. The SIP states that recreational disturbance could be contributing to the declines in breeding and migratory bird populations at certain locations including East Halton Skitter, Barton Pits,Faxfleet and Welwick. The floodbank is adjacent to the river and there are many dog walkers, birders and other regularly occurring activities which may be causing disturbance to birds. Offroad vehicles can also cause disturbance to bird features **[See reference** 105**]**.

C.131 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 106]**.

C.132 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 107]** 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.

C.133 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.

C.134 In North East Lincolnshire, the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) has identified 31 Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs). Only 23% of the sites were positively managed between 2023-2024, which represents a lower proportion than across Greater Lincolnshire where the figure was 50% **[See reference 108]**. This is an increase on the 2022-23 figures when only 22% of the local sites in North East Lincolnshire were positively managed **[See reference 109]**.

C.135 There are currently 95 Local Geological Sites in Greater Lincolnshire, with more selected by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) each year **[See reference** 110**]**.

C.136 At the time of the last assessment by the GLNP (end of the financial year 2023-2024) there were eight In North East Lincolnshire **[See reference** 111**]**.

C.137 Within the most recent Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) **[See reference** 112**]**, chalk streams and blow wells are classified as priority habitats. It is worth noting that the most recent BAP is relatively dated, and there is no record of its update.

C.138 Lincolnshire has a number of chalk streams; including around 18 main-stem rivers such as the Great Eau, River Waring and the River Lymn, with perhaps twice as many again small tributaries such as Welton Beck, all of which rise in the Wolds. Some are located predominantly on chalk strata – 'pure' chalk streams, such as Waithe Beck – but most are 'mixed geology', rising from chalk springs, but running over other types of geology, such as sandstone: for example the River Lymn falls into this category. Lincolnshire's chalk streams have been seriously degraded over the last century, particularly the last 50 years, largely due to agricultural intensification. Despite the scale of the county's chalk Wold uplands and designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, none of the Wolds' chalk streams are currently formally designated as nationally or even regionally significant. In part, this is a result of degradation over a long timescale and because the 'mixed geology' nature of many also makes them less characteristic of the type-habitat **[See reference** 113**]**.

C.139 There are around 16 sites with blow wells in Lincolnshire, from Barton-on-Humber to Fulstow, however, around half of these blow wells are no longer active. Blow wells in the form they occur in Lincolnshire are probably not found elsewhere in the UK. A national BAP species, the bryozoan Lophopus crystallinus, occurs at the Barton site. There is only one other site in the UK (in Oxfordshire) that is known to support this species. Restoration of modified or capped blow wells can offer opportunities for multiple benefits; for example through raising water levels to restore or create grazing marsh, or to meet Local Geological Site criteria **[See reference** 114**]**.

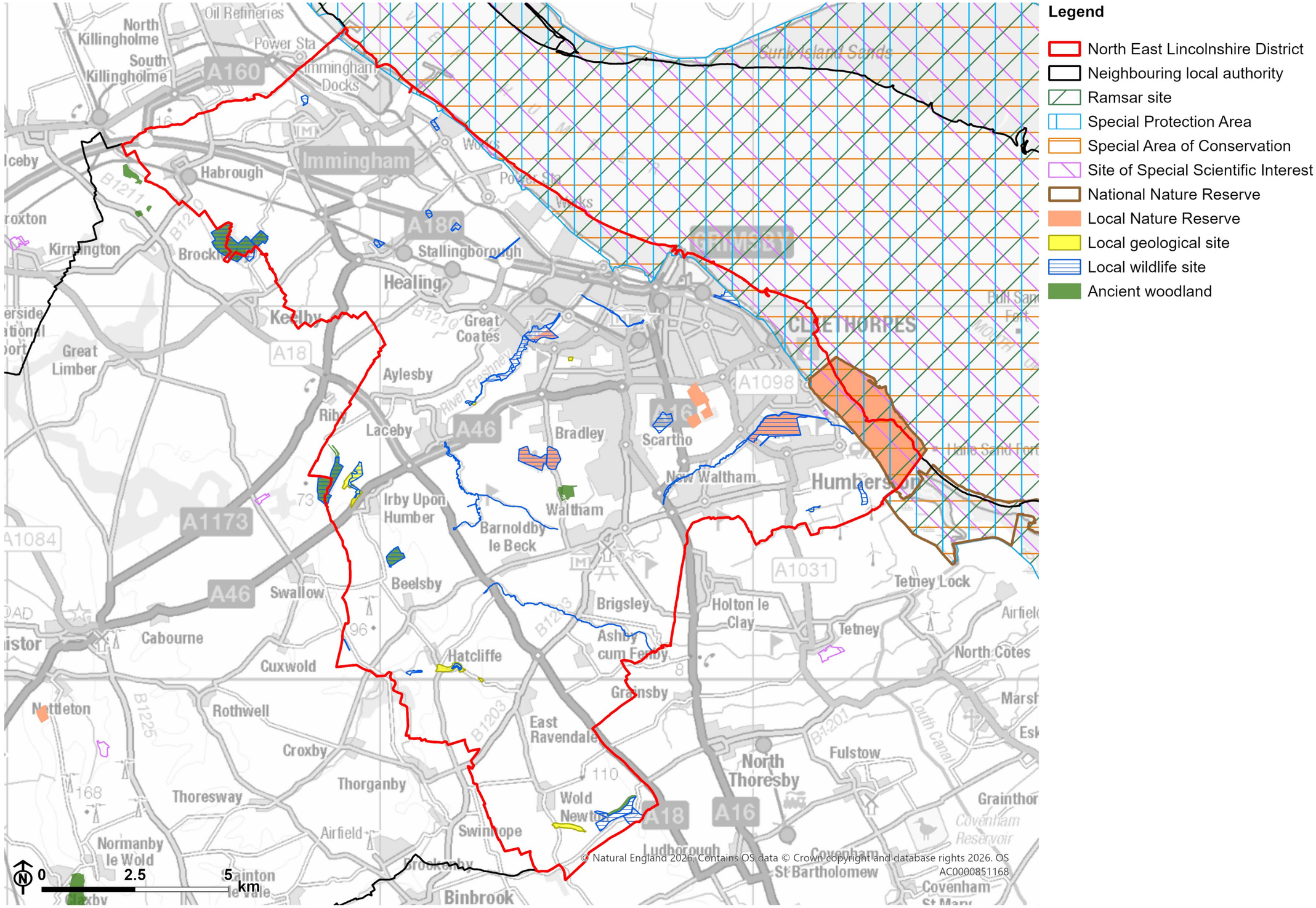
C.140 Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) form the basis to achieving BNG. They are an England-wide system of spatial strategies for nature that establish priorities and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits, particularly when confirmative with other climate change adaption strategies. On 5 November 2020 the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) Forum agreed that

the LNRS area should be Greater Lincolnshire and that the following habitat targets be adopted by the GLNP **[See reference** 115**]**:

- No net loss of Priority or other semi-natural habitat by 2025;
- 10% land area of Greater Lincolnshire is Priority habitat by 2045;
- 25% land area of Greater Lincolnshire is semi-natural habitat within a functioning ecological network.

C.141 The LNRS for Greater Lincolnshire was published in June 2026, following public consultation in early 2026. A map showing the designated biodiversity assets is provided in Figure C.9.

Figure C.9: Designated Biodiversity Assets



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Historic Environment

Heritage Assets

C.142 Heritage assets in North East Lincolnshire and their setting contribute to the character and distinctiveness of the area **[See reference 116]**. These assets include:

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

C.143 Some heritage assets, archaeological sites, historic buildings, shipwrecks, parks, formal gardens or battlefields, are considered to be of national importance.

C.144 In North East Lincolnshire there are 231 nationally listed buildings – 12 Grade I, 14 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 national Scheduled Monuments that include medieval settlements, barrows, churchyard crosses, and Humberston Abbey **[See reference** 117**]**. The designated heritage assets within North East Lincolnshire can be seen on Figure C.10.

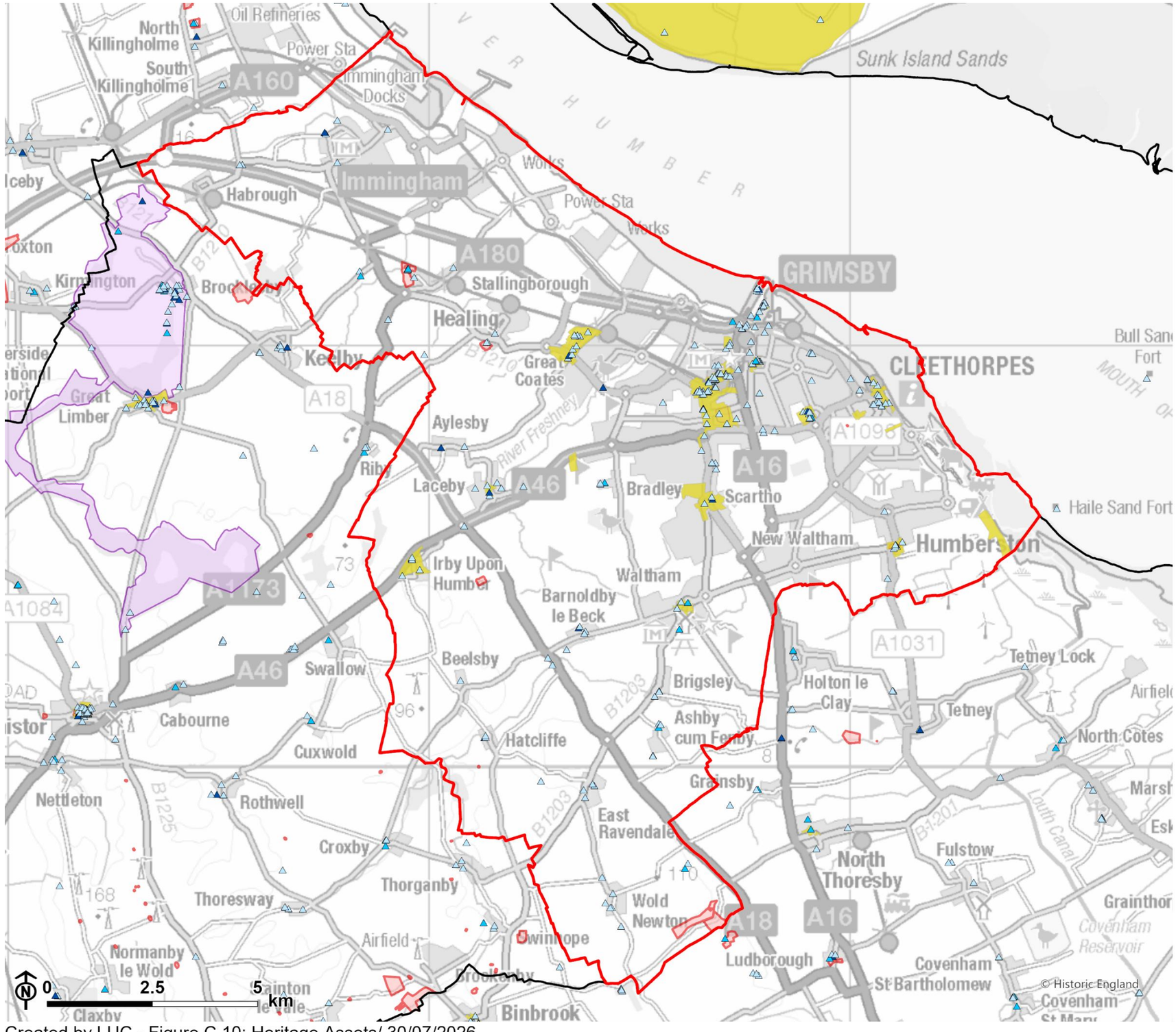
C.145 Conservation Areas are declared by the Local Authority for those areas which possess 'special interest', the 'character and appearance' of which is desirable to 'preserve and enhance'. They represent a familiar and often cherished local scene thus have greater protection against undesirable changes. In North East Lincolnshire there are 17 Conservation Areas.

C.146 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. There is also many non-designated heritage assets which are widely recognised as being of local heritage. Local lists of local heritage assets have been adopted for the following areas:

- Grimsby (2015)
- Grimsby villages (2013)
- Cleethorpes (2013)
- Immingham and the villages (draft)

Figure C.10: Heritage Assets



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Heritage at Risk

C.147 Historic England has a Heritage at Risk Register **[See reference 118]** 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.

C.148 Thirteen assets in North East Lincolnshire are on the Heritage at Risk Register. They include one Grade II Listed Building (Sir Moses Montefiore Synagogue), four Grade II* listed buildings (the Grimsby Ice Factory, Grimsby Haven Lock and Dock Wall, Waltham Windmill, and Former Heavy Anti-Aircraft Gun Site) two Scheduled Monuments (a Civil War earthwork fort and a Premonstratensian priory chapel 170m south west of Priory Farm) as well as six Conservation Areas **[See reference** 119**]**. As well as these designated assets there are a wide range of non-designated cultural heritage features in North East Lincolnshire.

C.149 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 120]**.

C.150 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
- Central Sea Front, Cleethorpes:
  - Heritage Category – Conservation Area

  - Condition – Poor
- 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
- Sir Moses Montefiore Synagogue, Holme Hill, Heneage Road, Grimsby
  - Heritage Category- Listed Building grade II
  - Condition- Poor
- 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
- 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.
- Waltham Windmill, Brigsley Road, Waltham
  - 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

Landscape

C.151 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 121]**.

C.152 There are three NCAs within North East Lincolnshire that are derived from the National Character Assessment as updated by Natural England **[See reference 122]**. These three NCAs are the Humber Estuary, Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes, and Lincolnshire Wolds (see Figure C.11). 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 123]**.

- 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 124]**.
- The Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes (42) is an area is 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 125]**.

C.153 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.

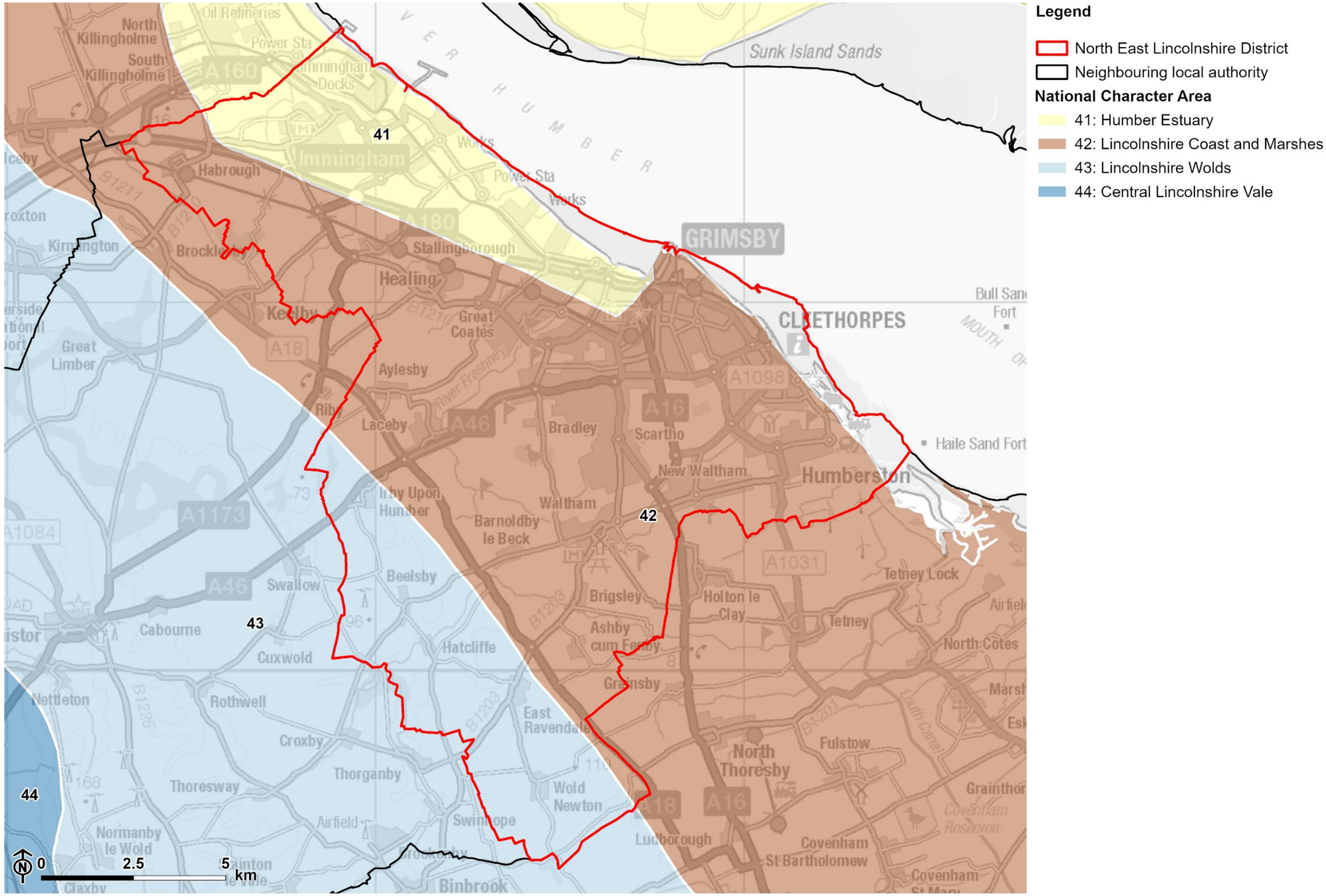
C.154 The Lincolnshire Coast and Marshes Character Area comprises elevated land lying above the coastal marshes and was attractive to early settlers, particularly because of the presents of streams such as Waithe Beck which still today form the focus of village and farm settlement. The Lincolnshire Wolds 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.

C.155 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 126]**.

C.156 National Trails are long distance walks through some of the very best landscapes the UK has to offer. They have been designated by the Government and are managed to a set of Quality Standards that set them above other routes **[See reference** 127**]**.

C.157 The England Coast Path is opening in sections, with the 11th stretch to open in Lincolnshire between the two traditional seaside resorts of Skegness and Mablethorpe – 16 miles (26 km) of constantly changing coastline **[See reference** 128**]**.

Figure C.11: National Character Areas



Created by LUC - Figure C.11: National Character Areas/ 30/07/2026

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Difficulties and Data Limitations

C.158 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".

C.159 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:

- 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.

C.160 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.

Appendix D
Site Assessment Criteria

Assumptions regarding distances

D.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

D.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).

D.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.

D.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

D.5 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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.6 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 and details submitted at the planning application stage which includes essential infrastructure such as foul drainage. 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).

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.7 Sites for biodiversity net gain (BNG) can help mitigate the effects of climate change and lower greenhouse gas emissions in a variety of ways. For example, additional woodland creation will help take more carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. However, these effects are largely dependant on what is proposed within the sites. Therefore, potential but uncertain minor positive effects are likely for all BNG sites (+?).

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.8 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. Therefore:

- Greenfield sites that contain a significant proportion (>=25%) of Grade 1, Grade 2 and/or Grade 3a agricultural land will have a significant negative (--) effect.
- Greenfield sites that contain less than a significant proportion (<25%) of Grade 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land will have a minor negative (-) effect.
- Sites that are located on brownfield or derelict land will have a significant positive (++) effect.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.9 The use of brownfield and derelict land to enhance biodiversity and wildlife habitats will support improvement to the quality of the land. Therefore:

- Sites that are located on brownfield land will have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Sites that are located on greenfield land will have a negligible (0) effect.

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.10 Development sites that are within close proximity of a heritage asset have the potential to affect their setting and contribution to the local character and distinctiveness. Effects are uncertain at this stage as they will depend on factors such as the design of the development and whether there are lines of sight between the development site and nearby heritage assets. Therefore:

- Sites that are located within 500m of a heritage asset may have a significant negative (--?) effect.
- Sites that are located between 500m-1km of a heritage asset may have a minor negative (-?) effect.
- Sites that are more than 1km from a heritage asset may have a negligible (0?) effect.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.11 The use of a site for biodiversity net gain is not likely to have an impact on designated heritage assets. The likely effects of all options on this objective are therefore negligible (0).

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

D.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 recreation pressure etc. Conversely, there may be opportunities to promote habitat connectivity if new developments include green infrastructure.

D.13 This site assessment criteria previously drew on information relating to National England's SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs). However, engagement with Natural England's National Planning Delivery Team in July 2024 has led to the conclusion that the SSSI IRZs dataset is not appropriate for use in SA. The dataset has been designed to understand potential effects of development

relating to SSSIs for use at the planning application stage and on a site-by-site basis, rather than for strategic-level assessment such as SA.

D.14 Therefore, the site appraisal criteria have been amended and no longer draw on IRZ data. Instead, the criteria are based on distance based thresholds given the likelihood for effects to become less pronounced as the distance from the development area increases.

Residential and Employment Site Options

- Site options are within 250m of an internationally or nationally designated site or where 1% of the site option's area is within a locally designated site may have a significant negative effect (--?) although this is uncertain given the potential for development to achieve mitigation or enhancement through sympathetic design and/or layout.
- Site options are within 1km of an internationally or nationally designated site or 250m of a locally designated site may have a minor negative effect (-?) although this is uncertain given the potential for development to achieve mitigation or enhancement through sympathetic design and/or layout.

D.15 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.
- Site options that are located within 400m of existing green and blue infrastructure may have significant positive effect (++?) given the potential opportunity for a site option to connect to or enhance green and blue infrastructure.
- Site options that are located within 400-800m of existing green and blue infrastructure may have minor positive effect (+?) given the potential ability of the site option to connect to that green and blue infrastructure.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.16 Sites that are being promoted for biodiversity net gain will help contribute to the recovery of nature within North East Lincolnshire by ensuring that habitat

for wildlife is in a better state than it was before enhancements. This offers the potential to improve biodiversity within North East Lincolnshire. Therefore, all sites promoted for biodiversity net gain are expected to have a significant positive (++) effect.

SA Objective 5: Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.17 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.18 Sites for biodiversity net gain are expected to have negligible (0) effects on air quality.

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.19 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 levels of water consumption will be determined by its design and onsite practices, rather than the location of the site.

D.20 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.21 The use of a site for biodiversity net gain is not likely to have an impact on this SA objective. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible (0).

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.22 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).

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.23 The use of a site for biodiversity net gain is not likely to have an impact on this SA objective. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible (0).

SA Objective 8: Maintain and improve water quality

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.24 Effects of development on water quality will depend in part on the capacity of existing sewage treatment works and water resource infrastructure to accommodate additional demand from new development, which cannot be determined at this stage on the basis of the location of individual development sites.

D.25 However, the location of development could affect water quality, particularly during construction, depending on its proximity to watercourses and water bodies and Source Protection Zones. The extent to which water quality is affected would depend on factors such as construction techniques and the use of SuDS within the design, therefore effects are uncertain at this stage. Therefore:

- Development on sites which contain a water body or watercourse or fall within or partially (more than 25%) within a Source Protection Zone 1 could result in significant negative (--?) effects on water quality although this is uncertain at this stage of assessment.
- Development on sites which do not contain a water body or watercourse but fall within or partially (more than 25%) within Source Protection Zones 2 and 3 could result in minor negative effects (-?) on water quality although this is uncertain at this stage of assessment.
- Development on sites which do not contain a water body or watercourse or fall within a Source Protection Zone would have a negligible (0) effect.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.26 Sites for biodiversity net gain have the potential to improve water quality if a watercourse passes through the site. However, this is dependant on what is proposed within the site. Therefore, the likely effects on this objective are negligible (0).

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.27 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:

- Site options that are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=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. >=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 (>=75%) within Flood Zone 1 will have a negligible (0) effect on the assumption that flood risk could be avoided.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site options

D.28 Sites for biodiversity net gain have the potential to reduce the risk of flooding by increasing the levels of vegetation which will help lower run-off. However, the effects on this objective will depend on what is proposed within the site. Where site options are located in areas of high flood risk, there is particular potential for a reduction in flood risk through increasing the level of permeable surfaces and restricting urban development. Therefore:

- Site options that are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 3 and/or within an area with a 1 in 30 year risk of surface water flooding are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.
- Site options that are entirely or significantly (i.e. >=25%) within Flood Zone 2 and/or contain land with a 1 in 100 year risk of surface water flooding are likely to have a minor positive (+) effect.

- Site options that are entirely or largely (>=75%) within Flood Zone 1 are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.

SA Objective 10: Achieve social inclusion and equality for all

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.29 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.30 The use of a site for biodiversity net gain is not likely to have an impact on this SA objective. The likely effects of all site options on this objective are therefore negligible (0).

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

Residential Site Options

D.31 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.

D.32 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. 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.

D.33 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

D.34 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.

D.35 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 (-?).

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.36 Sites for biodiversity net gain have the potential improve green infrastructure and areas of open space. However, this largely dependant on the specific proposal and design of the site. Therefore, potential but uncertain minor positive (+?) effects are identified for all site options.

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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.37 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).

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.38 The use of a site for biodiversity net gain is not likely to have an impact on this SA objective. Therefore, the likely effects on this objective are negligible (0).

SA Objective 13: Create vibrant communities

Housing Site Options

D.39 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 and Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.40 The location of employment and biodiversity net gain 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

D.41 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

D.42 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.43 The location of biodiversity net gain sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect of all sites will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 15: Promote sustainable transport

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.44 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.

D.45 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.46 The location of biodiversity net gain sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect of all sites will be negligible (0).

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

Residential Site Options

D.47 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 and Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.48 The location of employment and biodiversity net gain 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

Residential and Employment Site Options

D.49 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.

D.50 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.

D.51 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 2km of the AONB could have a significant negative (--?) effect.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site options

D.52 Sites for biodiversity net gain are likely to have positive effects on the landscape although this will be to some extent uncertain depending on their specific nature. Potential but uncertain minor positive (+?) effects are therefore identified for all site options.

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

Housing Site Options

D.53 The location of housing sites will not affect the local economy; therefore the effects of all residential sites will be negligible (0).

D.54 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.

D.55 Due to uncertainties regarding which sites will be allocated for employment in the Local Plan, the location of employment site options in relation to housing site options is not taken into account in the appraisal.

Employment Site Options

D.56 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.57 The location of biodiversity net gain sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect of all sites will be negligible (0).

SA Objective 19: Provide good education and training opportunities

Housing Site Options

D.58 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

D.59 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.

Biodiversity Net Gain Site Options

D.60 The location of biodiversity net gain sites is not considered likely to affect this objective; therefore the effect of all sites will be negligible (0).

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