Planning for Growth
North East Lincolnshire
Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan 2016
Consultation guide
Our **Local Plan** is an important document that will help shape the future of **North East Lincolnshire**. It provides the framework and direction for decisions, over the next 15 to 20 years, about future changes to our towns and villages and the surrounding environment.

Planning ahead ensures that we can protect and cherish places and environments of value in the borough while also providing the land required to support the jobs and homes we need, now and in the future.

**North East Lincolnshire Council** last adopted a **Local Plan** for **North East Lincolnshire** in 2003. The borough has since changed significantly and so too has the legislation related to planning and the process of preparing **Local Plans**. Our new **Local Plan** reflects these changes.

Having a **Local Plan** in place will enable us to encourage the developments we need in the right places and in the right ways. It will also help us to resist developments which are harmful. We are committed to getting this process right, and have made sure that the **Local Plan** delivers the priorities identified by local people. Consultation with you has played an important part in the development of the **Local Plan**. Following our last consultation in March 2015, a large amount of work has been completed to demonstrate that the **Local Plan** is focused on the delivery of sustainable development for the whole borough. We have also worked closely with landowners and developers to ensure that they reflect the expectations and aspirations of communities in the development proposals they bring forward.

This is the final consultation on our Draft **Local Plan**, also known as the Pre-Submission Draft. This is the plan which we are seeking to adopt. This final consultation provides a formal opportunity to consider the proposals before we submit all the Local Plan documents to the Government for consideration. The comments that we receive at this consultation stage will be considered by an independent **Planning Inspector** when the Local Plan is examined later this year. The Planning Inspector will make his/her recommendations for changes to the **Local Plan** before the Council can adopt it.
However, our unique geography at the mouth of the Humber provides an opportunity to deliver sustainable economic growth. There are already encouraging signs of new employment growth, which will create a much needed step change for our economic future. Therefore the publication of this plan, at this time, is very important. The plan’s vision is centered upon capturing and shaping the economic opportunity that we are presented with.

This **Local Plan** has been prepared during extraordinary times. **North East Lincolnshire** faces a number of complex and complicated challenges, such as climate change, supporting our ageing population, and aspects of deprivation which many households in the borough have to cope with.
Our Vision

By 2032 North East Lincolnshire will be nationally and internationally recognised as a centre for off-shore renewables, focusing on operations and maintenance and contributing significantly to the Humber’s ‘Energy Estuary’ status. Growth in key sectors - food, energy, chemicals, ports and logistics - will be matched by a strong tourism and leisure offer. Evident through increased jobs and diversity of skills, the barriers to accessing jobs will have been broken down. This will be facilitated through the establishment of facilities to improve education and skills, and measures implemented to address housing need and affordability, and health and service needs, including countering deprivation issues in specific wards. A platform for sustainable economic growth will have been created, with conditions to capture and sustain more and better jobs in the area well established.

Good progress will have been made to make North East Lincolnshire a forward looking borough where aspirations have been raised, and gaps narrowed in terms of social inequality; whether caused by health, education, age, disability, ethnicity, location or other aspects. Housing initiatives will have successfully revitalised areas of low housing demand. Steps will have been taken to lift housing delivery to support economic growth. The range of housing types and locations will accommodate the changing population, providing choice within the housing market, while been sensitive to the scale and character of settlements throughout the borough. Town centres will be successful, having developed their offer to support economic growth and changing demographics.

Environmental quality will be a source of pride, aspiration and confidence. The special character, biodiversity and distinctiveness of the borough will continue to be protected and enhanced. The borough’s ecological and green infrastructure networks will have been improved, providing improved habitats and access to nature for local communities.

A commitment will have been demonstrated to address the causes and consequences of climate change, including bringing about an overall reduction in the proportion of properties at risk from flooding.

The vision and the accompanying place statements are ambitious, and our targets need to be challenging and stretching. Our alternative is to accept the past trends of high unemployment, social stress and inequality, urban degradation and underachievement. By addressing past development constraints and focusing upon delivery, we can maximise our chances of achieving aspirational and sustainable change.
We have set out a number of objectives that work towards achieving our vision and the policies of the plan have emerged from these. The nine objectives are:

**SO1 Population**

Meet development needs and facilitate economic development by supporting population growth, retaining working age population and providing for a generally ageing population.

**Critical success factors:**
- Delivered new jobs (c8,800) and new homes (c13,340) by 2032; and,
- delivered a mix of housing, by type and location.

**SO2 Climate change**

Address the causes and effects of climate change by promoting development that minimises natural resource and energy use; reduces waste and encourages recycling; reduces pollution; brings about opportunities for sustainable transport use; responds to increasing flood risk; and, incorporates sustainable construction practices. Promote appropriate distribution of development and the role of green infrastructure in mitigating aspects of flood risk. Recognise the increased stress on habitats and species that climate change causes.

**Critical success factors:**
- reduced the waste generated and increased waste recycling;
- reduced the overall proportion of dwellings at risk from flooding; and,
- addressed the issue of poor air quality;
- reduced the number of declared Air Quality Management Areas in the borough;
- increased usage of sustainable transport modes;
- delivered residential development in locations that provide easy connections by public transport to schools, employment, hospitals and health centres;
- delivery of energy efficient housing stock; and,
- increased functional green infrastructure.

**SO3 Economy**

Support environmentally responsive local economic growth by promoting conditions that sustain an increase in the number of better paid jobs; removing barriers to investment and access to jobs; and, raising skills. Promote rural regeneration and diversification, including a strengthened tourism offer.

**Critical success factors:**
- reduced unemployment, through job creation and development of skills to support sector growth;
- reduced the proportion of population subject to social deprivation;
- delivered infrastructure to support economic development; and,
- strengthened rural economy.
**Our Vision**

**SO4 Housing**

Significantly boost housing supply to meet the existing and future housing needs of the whole community. High quality market and affordable housing, specific provision for the elderly, special needs housing and gypsy and travellers accommodation will be supported. A balanced supply of deliverable sites will be identified to achieve as a minimum, the objectively assessed needs of the borough, identified overall housing target.

**Critical success factors:**

- boosted supply of housing through the allocation of deliverable sites, whilst seeking to avoid the coalescence of settlements;
- supported the delivery of affordable housing;
- identified suitable sites to meet the specific needs of gypsies and travellers;
- addressed the specific housing needs of an ageing population; and,
- brought empty properties back into use for residential or alternative use.

**SO5 Social and health inequality**

Narrow the gap in terms of 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 establishing protecting, and maintaining a network of accessible good quality open space, sport and recreation facilities.

**Critical success factors:**

- reduced deprivation, narrowing the gap in terms of social and health inequality; and,
- safeguarded and developed open space and sport and recreation facilities to maintain or exceed local accessibility standards, promoting healthy lifestyles.

**SO6 Built, historic and natural environment**

Ensure that the development needs of the borough are met in a way that safeguards and enhances the quality of the built, historic and natural environment. Direct development to locations of least environmental value and proactively manage development to deliver net gains in biodiversity overall. Encourage the use of brownfield land.

**Critical success factors:**

- safeguarded designated, landscape, and heritage assets, and protected important species and habitats;
- reduced the number of buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register;
- adopted up-to-date Conservation Appraisals for Conservation Areas;
- delivered net gains in biodiversity;
- maximised use of brownfield land; and,
- delivered development in locations of least environmental value.
SO7 Transport

Improve accessibility to jobs and services by sustainable transport modes, including cycling and walking; reduce the overall need to travel with employment and housing growth spatially balanced; and, provide the necessary infrastructure to support sustainable growth.

Critical success factors:
- delivered key transport infrastructure to support sustainable growth; and,
- improved sustainable transport options to reduce the dependency on the car.

SO8 Town centres and local facilities

Strength the vitality and viability of town centres, meeting the needs for retail, commercial and leisure uses, focusing appropriate uses on town centre sites, promote regeneration where appropriate and support the retention of local community and service facilities.

Critical success factors:
- delivered town centre growth and regeneration, improving vitality and viability widening choice and offer; and,
- sustained a network of local centres providing local day to day service needs.

SO9 Design

Raise the quality of developments by applying 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.

Critical success factors:
- lifted the quality of development, reducing crime and fear of crime issues.

SO10 Minerals and waste

Safeguard important mineral resources and support minerals infrastructure for the future. Promote the application waste hierarchy in the management of waste and deliver sustainable facilities to manage waste.

Critical success factors:
- safeguarded mineral resources;
- planned for the supply of minerals to accommodate future growth;
- delivered adequate provision for the management of waste arisings; and,
- achieved reduction in waste generation and increased waste recycling.
Our Vision

The Key Diagram

Settlement Hierarchy

- **Urban Area** (Cleethorpes, Grimsby)
- **Local Service Centre** (Healing, Humberston, Immingham, Laceyby, New Waltham, Waltham)
- **Rural Settlements** (Habrough, Stallingborough)
- **Minor Rural Settlements**
- **Housing Growth**
- **Employment Zone** (South Humber Bank)
- **Business Park** (Humberston / New Waltham)
- **Grimsby Renewables - Enterprize Zone**
- **Sub Regional Town Centre** (Grimsby)
- **Town Centre** (Cleethorpes, Immingham)
- **Resort Area**

Landscape & Environment

- Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Strategic Green Infrastructure Corridors
- Area at Risk from Flooding
- Humber Estuary Natura 2000 Site

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The final phase of consultation

This version of the Local Plan is the version that the Council is seeking to adopt.

This final phase of the Local Plan consultation is a statutory requirement and must follow Government guidelines. It is the last opportunity to make comments (known as representations) before the Local Plan is submitted to the Secretary of State for public examination by an independent Planning Inspector.

This consultation is different to previous ones in that we are asking you to consider whether the Draft Local Plan complies with the legal requirements, the duty to co-operate, and ‘soundness’ criteria set out in Government guidelines. We are not asking questions on the content of the Local Plan but the document as a whole and the processes involved in its preparation.

The questions we are asking are based on the ones the Planning Inspector will ask during the examination. However, if you consider that changes should be made to the Local Plan, in order for it to meet the guidelines, you can put these forward. You should state precisely why you consider the changes should be made and provide evidence to support your suggestions.
Submission

Following this consultation the Local Plan, supporting documents and all the representations received (including the evidence you provide) will be submitted in summer 2016 for examination.

The Examination in Public is then expected to take place later in 2016, and it is anticipated that this will be followed by adoption of the Local Plan in summer 2017.

The Examination in Public

Representations will be considered by the Planning Inspector as part of the examination. Anyone who wishes to participate in the public examination must submit a representation to this consultation, although participation is at the Inspector’s invitation only.

Before the Local Plan can be adopted, the Planning Inspector must ensure that it is:

- **Positively prepared** – does the Local Plan meet development and infrastructure requirements and will it achieve sustainable development?

- **Justified** – is the Local Plan the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives, based on appropriate evidence?

- **Effective** – can the Local Plan be delivered during the period set out? Is it based on effective joint working between neighbouring local authorities to make sure?

- **Consistent with national policy** – does the Local Plan align with national expectations of and approaches to planning, as explained the National Planning Policy Framework?
Where can I find out more and get my views heard?

This guide only provides an overview of what the Local Plan contains. If you have an interest in a particular place or topic it is advisable that you refer to the full Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan document. Further information and a copy of the Local Plan can be viewed and downloaded at:

www.nelincs.gov.uk

We are seeking your views, based on the questions the Planning Inspector will ask during the examination, on the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan. This consultation period runs from 29 February to 13 April 2016.

How to make your comments

You may find it easier and quicker to make your comments via our online consultation portal at:

http://nelincs-consult.objective.co.uk/portal

Your comments must relate to relevant policies in the Local Plan and will be considered by the Planning Inspector when the Local Plan is formally examined. Comments should:

- Include your name and contact details;
- Include your agent’s name and contact details, where appointed;
- Say precisely how the Local Plan should be changed;
- Be supported by evidence showing why the Local Plan should be changed;
- Include all information and evidence necessary to support the representations; and,
- Indicate if you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, outlining why you consider this to be necessary.

Comments can also be made using the consultation questionnaire. Paper copies of the consultation documents are available, during normal opening hours, from the following venues:

- The Council’s Customer Access Point, Municipal Offices, Grimsby
- The Council’s temporary office in Immingham Library
- The four Lincs Inspire Libraries in Grimsby, Cleethorpes, Immingham and Waltham
- The Gingerbread House community hub, Humberston.

The questionnaire is available to download from the online addresses provided above.

You can email your complete questionnaire to us at:

newlocalplan@nelincs.gov.uk

or post it to us at: Local Plan, Origin Two, 2 Origin Way, Grimsby, DN37 9TZ.

Your comments should be received by us by 5pm on Wednesday 13 April 2016.

Council officers will be available to discuss the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan with you at a number of drop-in events, details of which will be advertised in the local press and on the Council’s website at:

www.nelincs.gov.uk
Links and contact details

**Spatial Planning**
ENGIE, Origin Two, 2 Origin Way, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire, DN37 9TZ.

**Our Local Plan**
www.nelincs.gov.uk

**Contact:** newlocalplan@nelincs.gov.uk

**01472 324272**

**Twitter:** www.twitter.com/NELCouncil

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/NELCouncil

North East Lincolnshire Council and ENGIE, working in partnership to deliver a stronger economy and stronger communities.