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1. **FOREWORD**

This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been produced to accompany the Preferred Options for the North East Lincolnshire Core Strategy. The Preferred Options document sets out a number of over-arching policies that will inform and guide planning decisions in North East Lincolnshire up to 2022. The Sustainability Appraisal seeks to predict the social, economic and environmental implications of these policies along with alternatives proposed by the Council. The Sustainability Appraisal Report (SA Report) is for the combined Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document for North East Lincolnshire Council.

Throughout this report, where reference is made to SA or the SA Report, it denotes Sustainability Appraisal under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act [Ref. 1], incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive. This is consistent with terminology used in the ODPM Guidance [Ref. 2] relevant to this study.

The SA Report documents these predicted effects along with suggested mitigation measures to improve the sustainability of the preferred options and therefore the Core Strategy as a whole. The consultation period for this Sustainability Appraisal Report is from May to June 2007.

Comments on this SA Report should be sent to:

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2. **INTRODUCTION**

**2.1 Background to the Local Development Framework**

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and its accompanying Regulations, led to the replacement of the existing system of Local Plans with Local Development Frameworks (LDFs). This is the term used for the portfolio of local development documents which comprise the spatial planning strategy for a local planning authority’s area.

LDFs comprise of Local Development Documents (LDDs), which include Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) which expand policies set out in a development plan document or provide additional detail. The LDF also includes:

- The Local Development Scheme (LDS), setting out details of each of the local development documents to be produced and the time scales and arrangements for production.
- The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), specifying how the authority intends to involve communities and stakeholders in the process of preparing local development documents.
- The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), setting out progress in terms of producing local development documents and implementing policies.

![Figure 1: Local Development Framework context](image)
DPDs can include:

- A **core strategy**, setting out the spatial vision, spatial objectives and core policies for the development of the local planning authority area.

- **Site specific allocations**, the sites which are proposed for development to meet the Council’s and the Community’s vision and core strategy including any policies which refer to the development of those sites, such as the mix of uses or the form of access arrangements.

- Area action plans (where needed).

- **Other development plan documents**, these can include thematic documents, for example, housing, employment and retail development.

- A **proposals map** illustrating the geographical extent of policies.

In accordance with the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and alongside the development of a Yorkshire and Humber Regional Spatial Strategy, a Local Development Framework (LDF) is being prepared for North East Lincolnshire. The aim of the LDF is to provide a clear framework to guide future development and sets out a vision for North East Lincolnshire which recognises and builds on the area’s characteristics, its aspirations and needs.

Currently, development in North East Lincolnshire is led by the existing North East Lincolnshire Local Plan which was adopted in November 2003. The policies contained in the Local Plan will be replaced gradually over the coming years by those in the new Local Development Documents. Relevant Local Plan policies will be “saved” until September 2007 and will remain of relevance in the decision making process until they are replaced by LDDs, or become redundant and are withdrawn by the authority.

The first Local Development Scheme (LDS) for North East Lincolnshire came into effect in May 2005. The LDS sets out the LDDs that will be prepared for the LDF and the opportunities for consultation. Reflecting the dynamic process of LDF development, it is anticipated that this will kept under review on an annual basis.

The LDF development process is taking place in conjunction with the preparation of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly. As outlined in the Local Development Scheme (LDS), the Council is commencing the LDF process with the Core Strategy DPD and will progressively replace ‘saved’ policies with the Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) in the next few years. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted during November 2006.

The Local Development Scheme (LDS), updated in April 2006, outlines the contents and timeframe for the development of the LDF. More strategic issues shall be addressed through the Core Strategy and other DPDs. The LDS identifies the key DPDs for the LDF, including the Core Strategy, Development Control and a Housing/Employment DPD, as well as a Proposal Map. It also outlines several Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) including Sustainable Development and Mitigating Flood Risk SPDs, and a range of Development Briefs to be identified. The Council has presented information relating to the development of LDF documents (including the ability to track the development of individual documents) at http://www.nelincs.gov.uk/environment/localdevelopmentplans/devplansldf.htm.
2.2 Background to the Core Strategy

The Core Strategy will set out a 15 year vision for the future of North East Lincolnshire. It will set the broad context for where development will be located and how the vision for North East Lincolnshire will be delivered.

The LDS recognises that each DPD and SPD will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA). Objectives and indicators for the North East Lincolnshire LDF Sustainability Appraisal cannot be seen in isolation. It also reflects on work already undertaken at regional level, particularly the SA of the Regional Economic Strategy, the first stage of the SA of RSS12, the RSDF objectives and also, neighbouring authorities. This will ensure a consistent approach and address macro level and cross boundary issues.

2.2.1 Geographical Area

This SA is primarily concerned with effects of the implementation of the North East Lincolnshire LDF. The SA will mostly look at effects within the authority area, although it will also consider the effects on surrounding districts, the region, and on national and global issues.

Figure 2 shows North East Lincolnshire within its strategic location – the neighbouring authorities are North Lincolnshire to the west, East Lindsey to the south and east, West Lindsey to the south and west, and East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull to the north of the Humber Estuary.

Figure 2: Map of North East Lincolnshire showing neighbouring authorities

Source: North East Lincolnshire Council
2.3 **Background to the SEA**

### 2.3.1 Requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment

The EU Directive 2001/42/EC [Ref. 5] on assessment of effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the ‘SEA Directive’) came into force in the UK on 20 July 2004 through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The Directive applies to a variety of plans and programmes including those for town and country planning and land use and applies to the Core Strategy for North East Lincolnshire as it

a) sets the framework for future development consent,

b) is likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

The overarching objective of the SEA Directive is: *‘To provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans… with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans… which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.’* (Article 1)

SEA is an iterative assessment process which plans and programmes are now required to undergo as they are being developed to ensure that potential significant environmental effects arising from the plan/programme are identified, assessed, mitigated and communicated to plan-makers. SEA also requires the monitoring of significant effects once the plan/programme is implemented.

### 2.3.2 Requirement for Sustainability Appraisal

Under the new regulations implementing the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 [Ref. 1], a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is required for all LDDs. The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations in the preparation and adoption of plans. The regulations stipulate that SA of LDDs should meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.

Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1) describes Sustainability Appraisal in Paragraph 9 of Annex B: *‘A Sustainability Appraisal is intended to assess the impact of plan policies from an environmental, economic and social perspective. It is intended to test the performance of a plan against the objectives of sustainable development and thereby provide the basis for its improvement. Guidance on carrying out the Sustainability Appraisal will show how they can comply with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive’.*

SA thus helps planning authorities to fulfil the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in preparing their plans.

There are many definitions of sustainable development. However, the most commonly used and widely accepted is that coined by the World Commission of Environment and Development in 1987 as: *‘Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.*

The UK Strategy for Sustainable Development ‘Securing the Future’ was revised in March 2005. The strategy outlines a set of shared UK principles which will be used
to achieve the goal of sustainable development. The guiding principles have been agreed by the UK government, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government and the Northern Ireland Administration. They bring together and build on the various previously existing UK principles to set out an overarching approach. The five guiding principles will form the basis for policy in the UK. For a policy to be sustainable, it must respect all five of these principles in order to integrate and deliver simultaneously sustainable development:

- **Living within environmental limits** – respecting the limits of the planet’s environment, resources and biodiversity to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations;

- **Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society** – meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal well being, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all;

- **Achieving a Sustainable Economy** – Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays); and efficient resource use is incentivised through financial rewards;

- **Promoting Good Governance** – Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people’s creativity, energy and diversity;

- **Using Sound Science Responsibly** – Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

### 2.3.3 The combined SEA/SA Process

The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, but the ODPM’s guidance of November 2005 [Ref. 2] states that it is possible to satisfy both through a single appraisal process and provides a methodology for doing so. This methodology goes further than the SEA methodology (which is primarily focused on environmental effects) requiring the examination of all the sustainability-related effects, whether they are social, economic or environmental. However, those undertaking the SA should ensure that in doing so they meet the requirements of the SEA Directive. To be consistent with terminology used in the ODPM Guidance throughout this report, the term SA is used to refer to the joint SEA/SA process.

### 2.3.4 SA and consultation

The requirements for consultation during a Sustainability Appraisal are determined from the requirements of the SEA Directive. These are:

- Authorities which, because of their environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the effects of implementing the plan or programme, must be consulted on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the Environmental Report. The 2004 SEA Regulations indicate four Consultation Bodies as follows: Countryside Agency, English Nature (now jointly called Natural England), English Heritage and Environment Agency. The SA guidance goes further by suggesting consultation, in addition to the
four Consultation Bodies, of representatives of other interests including economic interests and local business, social interests and community service providers, transport planners and providers and NGOs.

- The public and the Consultation Bodies must be consulted on the draft plan or programme and the Environmental Report (Sustainability Appraisal Report in the case of SA).

### 2.4 Purpose of the Report

The requirement to prepare a Sustainability Appraisal Report arises directly from Article 5.1 of the SEA Directive which states that:

> ‘An Environmental Report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated.’

In sustainability appraisal the Sustainability Appraisal Report replaces the Environmental Report as required under the SEA Directive.

This Sustainability Appraisal Report documents the work undertaken during the SA process and reports on the significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred proposals. Where significant adverse effects are predicted it identifies mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or offset such adverse effects. Measures are also proposed for monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Core Strategy.

The SA Consultation process of the Core Strategy is scheduled as shown below:

- **Scoping**: December 2005
- **Consultation on the draft DPD and the Sustainability Appraisal Report**: Commencing May 2007
3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of the SA

As mentioned in Section 2.3.3, there is a fundamental difference between the SA and SEA methodologies. SEA is primarily focused on environmental effects and the methodology addresses a number of topic areas namely Biodiversity, Population, Human Health, Flora and Flora, Soil, Water, Air, Climatic Factors, Material Assets, Cultural Heritage and Landscape and the interrelationship between these topics. On the other hand, SA widens the scope of the appraisal to include social and economic topics as well as environmental impacts.

This Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken so as to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive for environmental assessment of plans.

3.2 Stages in the SA process

According to ODPM guidance, the main stages in the SA process are as follows:

- **Stage A** – Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline, proposing the scope, and consultation on the proposed scope of the Sustainability Appraisal;
- **Stage B** – Developing and refining options and assessing effects;
- **Stage C** – Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report;
- **Stage D** – Consultation on the draft plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report;
- **Stage E** – Monitoring implementation of the plan.

Figure 3 below sets out the various stages, tasks and relationships with the LDF process contained in the ODPM guidance [Ref. 2].

This report summarises Stages B and C of this process.

Guidance from the ODPM emphasises that SA is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of the plan and the extent to which the implementation of the plan will achieve the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainable development can be defined. This will ensure that SA is fully integrated into the plan-making process from the earliest stages, both informing and being informed by it.

Table 1 (see page 12) sets out the way the specific SEA requirements have been met in this report.
**Figure 3 - Sustainability Appraisal – Relationship between Stages and Tasks**

Source: Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, ODPM, November 2005 [Ref. 2]

**Table 1: SEA Requirements and where they are covered in the Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes</td>
<td>Section 4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution without implementation of the plan or programme</td>
<td>Section 4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected</td>
<td>Section 4.2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan</td>
<td>Section 6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directive 79/409/EC and 92/43/EEC</td>
<td>Section 2.3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) The environmental protection objectives established at international, community or national level which are relevant to the programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including: short, medium and long term; permanent and temporary; positive and negative; 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 above factors</td>
<td>Section 6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) 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</td>
<td>Section 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) 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</td>
<td>Section 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring (in accordance with regulation 17)</td>
<td>Section 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings</td>
<td>The non-technical summary has been made available as a separate document.</td>
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</table>

Consultation with:

- Authorities with environmental responsibility when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environment report: See Appendix A
- Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public to be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan and accompanying environmental report before its adoption: Section 1
- Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country: Not applicable

Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision making:

- Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted the public and any countries consulted must be informed and the following made available: The plan or programme as adopted. A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme in accordance with the requirements of the legislation. The measures decided concerning monitoring: To be addressed at a later date
- Monitoring of the environmental effects of the plan or programmes implementation must be undertaken: To be addressed at a later date
3.3 **Stage A: Scoping**

A Scoping Report for the SA of the LDF was produced in December 2005 [Ref. 4] setting out the results of the Stage A work.

The purpose of Stage A was to derive the SA objectives and indicators, which are a set of criteria against which the predicted performance of the Core Strategy can be predicted and evaluated.

The four statutory SEA consultation bodies – English Nature, Countryside Agency (now together called Natural England), English Heritage and Environment Agency besides others (such as neighbouring authorities, the Primary Care Trusts, Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service, RSPB) were consulted on the Scoping Report for the North East Lincolnshire LDF. Their responses were considered in full and have been incorporated into this document (list given in Appendix A).

3.3.1 **Task A1: Other Relevant Plans and Programmes**

The LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal should both be set in the context of national, regional and local objectives along with strategic planning, transport, social, economic and environmental policies. A comprehensive review of all relevant plans, policies and programmes (See Appendix B) was carried out as part of the SA scoping process. This ensures that the objectives in the SAR generally adhere to, and are not in conflict with, objectives found in other PPPs and also assist in the setting of sustainability objectives for the SA. In addition to this, it can also be used to ascertain potential conflicts between objectives which may need to be addressed as part of the process.

3.3.2 **Task A2: Baseline Data**

Information describing the baseline provides the basis for the prediction and monitoring of the effects of the implementation of the LDF and its constituent documents. It can be used as a way of identifying problems as they occur so that relevant policy changes can be made to address such matters.

Due to the fact that SA is an iterative process, subsequent stages in its preparation and assessment might identify other issues and priorities that require data collection and monitoring. This makes the SA process flexible, adaptable and responsive to changes in the baseline conditions and enables trends to be analysed over time.

The most efficient way to collect relevant baseline data is through the use of indicators. This ensures that the data collection carried out is both focused and effective. The identification of relevant indicators was done alongside the assessment of other relevant plans policies and programmes (Task A1), the identification of sustainability issues (Task A3) and developing the sustainability appraisal framework (Task A4).

Sustainability indicators were selected for their ability to provide objective data that will, over time, offer an insight into general trends taking place. Throughout the assessment process, the following issues will need to be addressed:

- What is the current situation, including trends over time?
- How far is the current situation from thresholds, objectives or targets?
- Are the problems of a large or small scale, reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary, direct or indirect?
Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the environment, economy or society affected?

How difficult would it be to prevent, reduce or compensate for any negative effect?

Have there been / will there be any significant cumulative or synergistic effects over time?

Baseline information has been summarised in Section 4.2 of this Report and presented in detail in Appendix C. The aim is to give an overview of the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the plan area. It has been compared to the region and the rest of the country, where information was available.

Any gaps in the required baseline data will be addressed, where applicable, by the development of a targeted and cost-effective monitoring programme once the DPD is adopted. However, it is likely that external agencies will be able to provide some data through their own monitoring programmes. The collection of baseline data will be refined as the LDF evolves to ensure that the baseline is relevant to each particular DPD.

3.3.3 Task A3: Sustainability Issues

The key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire have been derived by analysing the baseline data and contextual information from other plans and assessing what the likely significant issues will be over the longer term, say, ten years. The key sustainability issues relevant to the LDF were identified in the following ways:

- Analysis of the objectives and issues highlighted in other plans and programmes that are relevant to North East Lincolnshire and its communities;
- Analysis of the baseline data and trends.

Besides, consultation responses to the Scoping Report [Ref. 4] provided further information relating to the identification of sustainability issues for the borough. These issues were set out under the three sustainable development dimensions (economic, social and environmental) and covered the most relevant topics. The key sustainability issues are presented in Section 4.3.

3.3.4 Task A4: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

A set of draft objectives and indicators, against which the policies and proposals in the DPDs can be assessed, was drawn up under the three sustainable development dimensions: social, economic and environmental.

The SA objectives were derived from the various plans, policies and programmes that were reviewed as part of Task A1, collection of baseline data (Task A2) and the identification of key sustainability issues (Task A3).

A framework was then developed taking on board comments from the consultation on the original Scoping Report. The framework attempts to establish the use of indicators specific to North East Lincolnshire against which to assess the DPDs. The revised SA Framework is presented in Table 5 to Table 7.
3.3.5 Task A5: Consulting on the Scope of the Sustainability Appraisal

A Scoping Report was prepared to seek the views from the Consultation bodies and others on the scope and level of detail of the ensuing Sustainability Appraisal Report. The consultation results have influenced and helped shape the Sustainability Appraisal Report (See Appendix A).

3.4 Stage B: Developing and Refining Options

A Scoping Report was released to the statutory environmental consultees in December 2005 for a period of five weeks. Its purpose was to establish the scope of and methodology for the SA and to provide the basis for consultation related to the range and level of detail of the Sustainability Appraisal Report and the baseline on which it was to be established.

3.4.1 Task B1: Testing the Core Strategy’s Objectives against the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

A compatibility assessment of the Core Strategy’s spatial objectives as compared with the SA Objectives was carried out. This ensured that the overall aims of the Core Strategy were in accordance with the SA objectives and identified potential conflicts and areas for further investigation as part of the detailed sustainability appraisal (presented in Section 6.1.1 and Table 8).

3.4.2 Task B2: Developing the Core Strategy Options

Strategic policy options were developed by the Council. These options were assessed, in broad terms, in order to determine their performance in sustainability terms, with reference to the social, environmental and economic factors.

The assessment of the range of strategic policy options available for achieving the objectives under consideration was done. The assessment has been undertaken primarily using expert judgement which is recognised in the guidance as being an acceptable and appropriate technique to be used at this stage. The assessment of strategic options is presented in Section 5 of this report.

3.4.3 Task B3: Predicting the Effects of the Core Strategy

The methodology adopted for this assessment is broadbrush and qualitative - generally accepted as good practice by the SA guidance. The assessment of the Core Strategy was broken down into prediction, evaluation and mitigation of effects.

The prediction of effects involved the identification of the potential changes to the sustainability baseline conditions which were considered to arise from the development principles being proposed by the Core Strategy. The predicted effects were then described in terms of their nature and magnitude (presented in Appendix D) using the following parameters:

- Geographical scale;
- Probability of the effect occurring;
- Timing of effect – short, medium, long term;
- Duration of effect – temporary or permanent;
Source of effect;
- Nature of effect – positive, negative or neutral;
- Secondary, cumulative and/or synergistic effects.

The prediction of effects was undertaken for each Policy being recommended through the Core Strategy against the SA Framework.

3.4.4 Task B4: Evaluating the Effects of the Core Strategy

The next stage of the assessment involved the evaluation of the significant effects. The evaluation involved forming a judgement on whether or not the predicted effects would be environmentally significant. Qualitative assessment based on expert judgement was primarily used to assess the significance of effects. Other techniques included consultation with stakeholders involved in the SA process, geographical information systems and reference to key legislation, primarily the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (1999). The following parameters were used to determine the significance:

- Scale;
- Permanence;
- Nature and sensitivity;
- Cumulative effects.

The assessment adopted the qualitative five point scale (Table 2) to assess the significance of effects of the policies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment scale</th>
<th>Significance of effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>++</td>
<td>Strongly positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Neutral or no obvious effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--</td>
<td>Strongly negative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strongly positive/negative and positive/negative effects have been considered of significance whereas neutral effects have been considered non-significant.

Secondary and Cumulative Effects Assessments

Annex I of the SEA Directive requires that the assessment of effects include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects.

a) Secondary or indirect effects are effects that are not a direct result of the plan or policy, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of the complex pathway, e.g., a development that changes a water table and thus affects the ecology of a nearby wetland. These effects are not cumulative and have been
identified and assessed primarily through the examination of the relationship between various objectives during the Assessment of Environmental Effects.

b) **Cumulative effects** arise where several proposals individually may or may not have a significant effect, but in-combination have a significant effect due to spatial crowding or temporal overlap between plans, proposals and actions and repeated removal or addition of resources due to proposals and actions. Cumulative effects can be:

- Additive - the simple sum of all the effects;
- Neutralising - where effects counteract each other to reduce the overall effect;
- Synergistic - is the effect of two or more effects acting together which is greater than the simple sum of the effects acting alone. For instance, a wildlife habitat can become progressively fragmented with limited effects on a particular species until the last fragmentation makes the areas too small to support the species at all.

Many environmental problems result from cumulative effects. These effects are very hard to deal with on a project by project basis through Environmental Impact Assessment. At the SA level, they are most effectively identified and addressed.

Cumulative effects assessment is a systematic procedure for identifying and evaluating the significance of effects from multiple activities. The analysis of the causes, pathways and consequences of these effects is an essential part of the process. These effects, including additive, neutralising and synergistic effects, have been considered in the appraisal.

- As part of the review of relevant strategies, plans and programmes and the derivation of draft SA objectives, key receptors have been identified which may be subject to cumulative effects.
- In the process of collecting baseline information, cumulative effects have been considered by identifying key receptors (e.g., specific wildlife habitats such as water vole populations) and information on how these have changed with time. Targets have been identified (where possible), that identify how close to capacity the key receptor is, which is a key determining factor in assessing the likelihood of cumulative and synergistic effects occurring, and their degree of significance.
- Through the analysis of environmental issues and problems, receptors have been identified that are particularly sensitive, in decline or near to their threshold (where such information is available).
- The development of SA objectives, indicators and targets has been influenced by cumulative effects identified through the process above and SA objectives that consider cumulative effects have been identified.
- The likely cumulative effects of the strategic alternatives have been identified which highlighted potential cumulative effects that should be considered later in the SA process.
- Testing the consistency between the Core Strategy and SA objectives has highlighted the potential for cumulative effects against specific Core Strategy objectives.
3.4.5 Task B5: Considering Ways of Mitigating Adverse Effects and Maximising Beneficial Effects

Mitigation measures have been identified during the evaluation process to reduce the scale/importance of significant negative effects and also maximise beneficial effects.

3.4.6 Task B6: Proposing Measures to Monitor the Significant Effects of Implementing the Core Strategy

SA monitoring involves measuring indicators which will enable the establishment of a causal link between the implementation of the plan and the likely significant effect (positive or negative) being monitored. Thus, it helps to ensure that any adverse effects which arise during implementation, whether or not they were foreseen, can be identified and action can be taken by the Council to deal with them.

3.5 Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

This is the draft SAR which is the content of this document.
4. DEVELOPMENT OF APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

The development of a sustainability appraisal framework is a key component in completing the SA as it establishes the sustainability objectives or criteria that will be used for evaluation of the Core Strategy principles in subsequent stages of the assessment process. It does this through the identification of sustainability objectives contained in existing policies and identifying resources and particular issues or problems requiring consideration in the SA from the baseline study.

A brief summary of this process is provided below.

4.1 Plans and Programmes

The SEA Directive states that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

the plan’s ‘relationship with other relevant plans and programmes’ and ‘the environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan…and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation’.(Annex 1 (a), (e)).

A wide range of plans, programmes and policies have been identified that may be relevant for the North East Lincolnshire LDF Core Strategy (detailed in Appendix 2).

At the regional level, the key document is the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) of Yorkshire and the Humber (December 2004) that is based on a selective review of Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) 12, and sets out a strategy to guide planning and development in the Yorkshire and the Humber region to the year 2016. In addition, the Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) for Yorkshire and the Humber (2003) was a key influence. The regional documents promoting sustainable development include:

- Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Planning Guidance 12 (including Select Review);
- Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Economic Strategy (RES), Third Draft Environmental Report, September 2005;
- Stage 1a Sustainability Report, the Preliminary Stage of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Yorkshire and Humber Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), January 2005;
- Humber Estuary Flood Defence Strategy: Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report, June 2005

At the local level, the policies, plans and programmes produced within North East Lincolnshire have provided the key focus for the policy analysis, with the objectives outlined in existing Adopted Local Plan for North East Lincolnshire, as well as the
Community Strategy produced by North East Lincolnshire Local Strategic Partnership being particularly relevant to the development of the SA framework.

The following SA related studies at the local level have provided background to developing the Core Strategy SA Framework:

- The 'Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Tool: Promoting Sustainable Development In Northern Lincolnshire Guidance' adopted in North East Lincolnshire and in North Lincolnshire by the Primary Care Trusts, the Local Strategic Partnerships, North Lincolnshire’s Jigsaw, North East Lincolnshire’s Sustainable Development Forum, North East Lincolnshire Council, etc. It has been included in Part 3 of North East Lincolnshire’s Community Strategy as the cornerstone for achieving the Strategy’s aims.

- The North East Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report produced in October 2006.

These documents provide guidance on the wider sustainability objectives for the Yorkshire and Humber Region as well as specifically for North East Lincolnshire.

4.2 Baseline Information

The SEA Directive states that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

‘relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan” and the “environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex I (b) (c)) and; ‘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 (Birds Directive) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive)” (Annex I (c)).

4.2.1 Social Issues within North East Lincolnshire

North East Lincolnshire is an area of much diversity and opportunity. It is situated on the east coast of England at the mouth of the Humber estuary, covering an area of 74 square miles (192 sq km). The Humber sub-region is considered to be a “Global Gateway” offering significant economic opportunities. It is an area that presents challenges but also one which offers future potential. It includes the port towns of Grimsby and Immingham, the seaside resort of Cleethorpes, a range of villages of varying size and composition, and the attractive landscape of the Lincolnshire Wolds.

Population

The population of North East Lincolnshire was 157,500 in mid-2005 of which about 1.4% is from minority ethnic communities. By 2029, the population is predicted to increase to 163,900 - by over 6000 people. This is the first projected increase for many years. This may be compared with a regional growth of 7%. A lower percentage of the population is within the 20-34 age range when compared to national and regional averages. This indicates the difficulty of retaining younger adults and graduates within the area. By 2009, older people will outnumber children in North East Lincolnshire, and by 2026, people of 50 years or older will represent 44% of the total resident population. Consistent with national trends, it is likely that an ageing population will place additional pressures on services.
Around 122,000 live in the Grimsby/Cleethorpes conurbation, 10,000 in Immingham, and the remainder in rural settlements. The population comprises of approximately 70,000 households of which less than 6% live in areas which could be described as rural.

**Deprivation**

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2004 score shows that North East Lincolnshire is ranked as 52nd most deprived out of 354 Councils in England. However, this masks differences across the Borough. Many of the Borough’s areas are amongst the most disadvantaged 20%, highlighting pockets of deprivation in the urban area.

**Housing**

The total number of households in North East Lincolnshire is 66,054. Consistent with national and regional averages, the average household size in North East Lincolnshire is 2.36. As household sizes decrease due to an increased number of people living alone and in smaller families, and population growth occurs, the total number of households is likely to increase.

According to the 2001 Census, the majority (72.4%) of properties in the North East Lincolnshire are owner-occupied. By national standards, house prices are low in the authority, although significant rises have been witnessed over the last 5 years. This, combined with low incomes, means there is an issue related to the lack of good quality affordable homes. This has resulted in the private housing market becoming inaccessible for many, with particular problems for first time buyers. There are also suggestions of a significant shift from the urban centres of Grimsby to the more suburban and rural parts of North East Lincolnshire - the largest population growth being in the Wolds Parishes. At the other end of the spectrum, there are some urban areas where poor quality housing is linked to low demand and weak housing markets. The Council transferred its council housing to Shoreline Housing Partnership in 2005 and are now working in partnership.

In 2001, there were 2,805 empty homes in North East Lincolnshire, or 4.1% of the total. This is slightly higher than the regional average and indicates a potential for homes to be brought back into reuse. There were 391 households accepted as homeless in North East Lincolnshire in 2004-05, as the number of households on Local Authority waiting lists between 2001 and 2005 rose by 6.6%.

**Health**

Life expectancies for males in North East Lincolnshire are below regional and national averages; while females have a life expectancy slightly above regional but below national average. Males residing in North East Lincolnshire have an average life expectancy of 75 years, and females have an average life expectancy of 80.5 years.

The proportion of people with limiting long-term illness and self assessed general health which is ‘not good’ is slightly lower than regional averages but higher than national averages.

The conception rate for girls under 18 residing in North East Lincolnshire in 2004 was 65.9 per 1000, with higher rates in more deprived wards. This is significantly higher than the national rate of 41.7 per 1000 or the regional rate of 47.3 per 1000. Trends over the last five years indicate that the national target to reduce teen conceptions from the 1995-97 baseline by 50% by 2010 is unlikely to be met.
4.2.2 Economic Issues for the North East Lincolnshire

The busiest port in the country, Immingham/Grimsby sits within the area. The twin ports of are of international trading significance, providing the economic gateway to the region as well as the rest of the world. Chemicals, manufacturing, port activities and food processing have formed the base of the main economic base of the Borough since the decline of the fishing industry in the 1950s. Unemployment is higher than regional and national averages and gross earnings are the lowest in Yorkshire and Humber. Tourism accounts for a significant number of local jobs equating to 7% of the total.

The Borough is at the heart of the Humber Trade Zone, with the biggest port complex in the country and fourth largest in Europe. A substantial amount of land to facilitate growth is available alongside established major operators providing strength in key business clusters. The challenge is to retain the economic advantages of this growth within the local economy, rejuvenate former employment sites in the urban area and regenerate key sites including the Grimsby Fish Docks.

The main highway link connecting the urban centres with the motorway network stretching through South and West Yorkshire is the A180. The passenger rail network ending at the resort of Cleethorpes provides a similar link to the national rail network. Local passenger rail connections can also be made at Great Coates, Healing, Stallingborough and Habrough. The expansion of the ports and adjoining employment areas places pressures upon the transport network and the local environment.

The Humber Estuary bounds the area to the north-east, and the main connecting roads are the A180 (T) from the west (Humber Bridge 27 miles; Hull 33 miles; Scunthorpe 34 miles; Doncaster 54 miles), the A46 from the south-west (Lincoln 38 miles; Nottingham 96 miles), and the A16 from the south (Louth 16 miles; Skegness 38 Miles; Boston 48 miles).

4.2.3 Environmental Issues for the North East Lincolnshire

Despite its small size, North East Lincolnshire has a varied and attractive countryside. The coastal area in the Authority is internationally recognised as an important natural habitat, being a site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation and Ramsar site in recognition of its importance for migrating birds and waterfowl. It is also a valued and attractive tourist and recreation destination. The relationship between development pressures and natural habitats, particularly in this coastal zone is worthy of particular note. Inland, the quality of the landscape is recognised in the designation of an area as part of the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The Borough has contrast and diversity with important natural and landscape assets sitting alongside major port and commercial developments.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Some twenty percent of the borough is within the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to the west, which forms the backdrop to the coastal plain that continues to the mouth of the Humber estuary in the east. The AONB has features typical of the Wolds chalk landscape, with its wide verges once used to drive herds of sheep, its clumps of beech trees and a patchwork of large, arable fields. Some of the ancient chalk grassland wildflowers still remain, having escaped cultivation by virtue of their location on steep slopes that are not suited to machinery. The secret valleys of the Wolds landscape are testimony to the gouging
action of glaciers during the last ice age while the hummocks and hollows of some
fields mark the remains of medieval villages long since abandoned.

The coastal plain has been mostly given over to intensive agriculture, with large
fields of wheat and oilseed rape being dominant. Nevertheless, some important
wildlife habitats remain, providing a refuge not only for scarce plants and animals,
but also for local people who need to get away from the pressures of urban living. A
handful of meadows and ancient woodland areas contribute to the diversity of the
landscape, while the coast has a rich array of habitats with sand dunes, saltmarsh,
sandflats and mudflats. All but the dunes make up the inter-tidal zone of the
Humber estuary. The Estuary, which has multiple designations as a Ramsar site, a
Special Area of Conservation, a Special Protection Area and a SSSI, is the
important site in North East Lincolnshire for biodiversity. The international and
national designations aim to protect a wide variety of species and habitats, and
reflect the estuary’s particular importance for bird life. A large number of migratory
wading birds and wildfowl arrive here during the winter months to feed on the
abundant invertebrate life that dwells in the mudflats. Much of the coastal zone
south of Cleethorpes Leisure Centre was designated a Local Nature Reserve in
June 2000, reflecting the value of this habitat.

A number of freshwater habitats are found in the area, providing a home for
species which are now uncommon, such as the water vole and kingfisher. As well
as inhabiting a number of other water courses, both species are found along the
Lacey Beck/River Freshney, a vital “green corridor” that is as important for
recreation as it is for wildlife. The Beck arises at the foot of the Wolds and winds its
way through arable land and the village of Laceby, before taking a path into the
heart of Grimsby (as the River Freshney) and emptying into the docks area. A
number of blow wells (springs that arise on flat land away from the slope of the
Wolds and have a range of habitats associated with them) are found throughout the
coastal plain but few continue to flow on a regular basis owing to the
overabstraction of water from the underlying chalk. This activity has also led to low
flows in the upper reaches of the Lacey Beck/River Freshney during periods of
drought, threatening the wildlife that depends upon it.

The built environment

North East Lincolnshire communities were based on agriculture and fishing.
Agricultural communities were normally connected with the largest land owner in
the area. The land owner would usually have a large house, barns and workers
cottages, often built close to a Church. Villages would then develop either along the
main lines of communication or in a cluster around the Church. The majority of
villages in North East Lincolnshire have a Church (the earliest being of Saxon
origin) and with the development of Methodism in the area, many also had
Chapels.

Many of the earlier villages have become swamped with development, especially
as the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes have grown. Although medieval road
patterns still exist, the architecture which remains is dominated by the Victorian
period with some examples from the earlier Georgian era.

North East Lincolnshire has no nationally important country houses or public
buildings, although the Dock Tower at the entrance to Grimsby Docks is the only
one of its kind in the country. There are 221 buildings in the borough that are
included in the list of “buildings and other structures of architectural or historic
interest”. These listed buildings are surveyed by the Council every one or two years
and the “Buildings at Risk” register amended accordingly. In 2006, 2 buildings in
the Grade I or II* were considered to be at risk.
Many listed buildings are located in areas that are of special architectural importance. These areas are designated as Conservation Areas and have a level of protection from inappropriate development in order to preserve their character. North East Lincolnshire has 14 Conservation Areas whose buildings are monitored through the Management and Assessment Statements that are produced for each Area.

**Air quality**

The authority declared an Air Quality Management Area on Kings Road, Immingham in July 2006 for the exceedence of the daily PM10 levels. Continuous monitoring is in place in the area and the authority is preparing an Action Plan that will contain actions to reduce the dust levels below the national action level (less than 35 daily exceedances).

**Flood risk**

Large areas of land within the Borough are identified as being at risk from flooding, including valued employment and urban areas. Whilst mitigation measures are important, the Environment Agency has undertaken to ensure that protection is provided for at least the next 100 years for flooding events with return periods of up to 300 years.

### 4.2.4 Data Limitation

The purpose and use of indicators is to provide quantified, objective information in order to show how things change over time. However, they do not explain why particular trends are occurring and the secondary, or knock-on, effects of any changes.

There are several gaps in the data collected as a result of not all the relevant information being available at the local level for recent time periods. Much of the data is collected or collated by external bodies and therefore North East Lincolnshire Council has little control over the temporal and spatial scope of the data collected. In addition to this, it is necessary to be aware of the possibility that data collection methods may change in the future, which would restrict reliable comparisons over time. It is important to recognise that such limitations exist and that focusing solely on quantified indicators as a measure of progress could lead to misrepresentation and the distortion of trends. This being the case, it will also be necessary, in some circumstances, to utilise qualitative information, along with expert judgments, to assist with the assessment and appraisal of the effects of the implementation of policy.

### 4.3 Sustainability Issues

The requirement to identify sustainability problems and issues arises from the SEA Directive, where the Environmental Report required under the Directive should include:

“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 (Birds) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats)” (Annex I (d))
4.3.1 Methodology

Drawing on the issues drawn from the process of identifying plans and programmes that are relevant to the LDF, and from the process of collecting baseline data, this part of the SA aims to highlight any issues or conflicts that need to be considered when developing sustainability objectives. Table 3 presents the results of an analysis of key sustainability issues.

Table 3: Key Sustainability issues in North East Lincolnshire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>Needs</th>
<th>SEA Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The population is currently declining whilst the average age is increasing. | ▪ Improve employment opportunities to retain population  
▪ Focus on improving housing - its availability and affordability  
▪ Promote safe, attractive environment for all ages  
▪ Promote improved services, availability and accessibility          | Population, All environmental topics                                              |
| On average, the population have a relatively low skill base with many young people not achieving average educational standards. | ▪ Facilitate a culture in which education, learning and skills are highly valued  
▪ Promote improved educational attainment and vocational skills  
▪ Support the development of educational facilities as a stimulus to better training and education  
▪ Develop Higher Education facilities to provide higher level learning and skills opportunities | Population                                           |
| The economy appears strong statistically but masks the fact that wealth is not captured and fed into the local economy. | ▪ Develop the Humber Trade Zone, investing in strategic sites and employment clusters  
▪ Focus on utilising the regional assets of the Humber ports, Humberside and Doncaster airports to deliver local economic gains  
▪ Build on the potential of tourism to contribute to the local economy | Population                                           |
| There is an assumption that to succeed, people may need to move out.   | ▪ Support the start-up and growth of businesses  
▪ Foster a climate that attracts and supports investment  
▪ Develop Higher Education facilities to provide higher level learning and skills opportunities | Population                                           |
| The population is general less healthy than regionally and nationally  | ▪ Ensure housing is warm and energy efficient to reduce cold-related illness  
▪ Ensure good accessibility to health and health-related services  
▪ Develop improved accessibility and access to leisure opportunities  
▪ Reduce teenage pregnancy rate                                      | Population, Health                                   |
| The area has a high level of crime                                    | ▪ Minimise opportunities of crime  
▪ Reduce fear of crime in the population                                | Population, Health                                   |
| Use of public transport is in continuous decline,                     | ▪ Encourage development that is adequately serviced to promote the use                           | Population, Health, Air                |

North East Lincolnshire Council  
LDF Core Strategy SEA
### Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>Needs</th>
<th>SEA Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>with cars as the dominant mode of transport</td>
<td>of public transport</td>
<td>quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Encourage the use of alternatives to the car</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a lack of housing that is affordable, accessible and designed to high standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Focus on improving housing - its availability and affordability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- More affordable housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Regenerate and rejuvenate derelict sites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Return vacant dwellings to occupation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Improved design of new housing developments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Promote improved services, availability and accessibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection from flood risk and impacts of climate change</td>
<td></td>
<td>Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Discourage developments in flood risk areas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Tackle problems of sea level rise due to climate change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Encourage flood risk assessments for new developments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Protect areas vulnerable to flooding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Protect habitats/species at risk from effects of climate change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Support biodiversity through new habitat creation and improving linkages to wildlife corridors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a need to reduce/reuse the amount of waste generated, improve recycling rates and find alternatives to landfill</td>
<td></td>
<td>Soil, Landscape, Population, Human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Support proposals for waste management to increase reuse/recycling of waste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Support facilities such as Combined Heat and Power, Energy from Waste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Identify new sites for waste management – alternatives to landfill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Reduce the amount of waste generated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor air quality in Immingham with one area declared an Air Quality Management area (AQMA)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Air quality, Human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Improve air quality through reduction of emissions from port activities – shipping, rail freight and coal storage emissions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Reduce pollutant emissions from industrial facilities around the port area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.4 Sustainability Objectives

The key sustainability issues for North East Lincolnshire have been derived by analysing the baseline data and contextual information from other plans and assessing what the likely significant issues will be over the longer term, say, ten years. Besides, consultation responses to the Scoping Report [Ref. 4] provided further information relating to the identification of sustainability issues for the Borough. These issues were set out under the three sustainable development objectives (economic, social and environmental) and covered the most relevant topics.
4.4.1 Environmental Objectives

EN1 - Efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land.
EN2 - Maintain and improve a quality built environment, and preserve the historic and archaeological sites in North East Lincolnshire.
EN3 - Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural environment.
EN4 - Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change.
EN5 - Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire.
EN6 - Prudent and efficient use of energy, water and other natural resources.
EN7 - Reduce pollution and waste generation and increase levels of reuse and recycling.
EN8 - Maintain and improve water quality.
EN9 - Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and natural environment in North East Lincolnshire.

4.4.2 Social Objectives

S1 - Social inclusion and equity across all sectors.
S2 - Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire’s population.
S3 - Safety and security for people and property in North East Lincolnshire.
S4 - Vibrant communities that participate in decision making.
S5 - Accessibility to public recreational areas and culture, leisure and recreation available to all.
S6 - Reduce the need to travel by private car.
S7 - Good access to and encourage use of public transport, walking and cycling.
S8 - A transport network that maximises access whilst integrating all modes of effective non-car based movements.
S9 - Good quality housing available to everyone.
S10 - Preserve and enhance North East Lincolnshire’s rural landscapes and public open spaces.

4.4.3 Economic Objectives

EC1 - Good quality employment opportunities available to everyone.
EC2 - Good education and training opportunities that build skills and capacity of the population.
EC3 - Conditions that enable business success, economic growth and investment.
4.4.4 Objective compatibility testing

A compatibility assessment was performed on the objectives. Table 4 presents the finding of the assessment, while the text below provides a summary of the findings.

EN1 and EN2 – Encouraging the use of previously developed land for new developments could bring higher densities in the town centres, which may conflict with the historic built form of the towns. Quality urban design should always be encouraged.

EN1 and EN4/EN5 – It is likely that many brownfield sites for development will be in urban areas. These will help to reduce journey numbers and distances because of easy access to service and public transport alternatives. However, there will be a need to encourage people to use alternative forms of travel to the car, else more development could lead to increased transport greenhouse gas emissions and traffic NO2 emissions with increasingly poor levels of air quality in the town centres.

EN1 and EN9 – There could be a potential conflict between demand for housing land and the need to avoid floodplain development.

EN1 and S9 – Encouraging sustainable communities is at the heart of central government guidance. The Housing Strategy and Needs Assessment will determine what types of new housing developments should be brought forward and for whom.

EN1 and S10 – As most previously developed land will be in urban areas, there will be a pressure for development on the public open spaces.

EN2/EN3 and EC3 – A good quality built and natural environment is a major draw for tourism which shall also attract other forms of investment.

EN6/EN7 and S9 – Large number of developments may conflict with the objectives to reduce pollution, energy, water and other natural resources. These conflicts could be addressed through appropriate mitigation measures such as sustainable construction practices.

S5 and S8 – Public recreational areas and leisure facilities should be accessible through public transport, walking and cycling and non-car based travel.

S6 and S9 – Additional housing could potentially increase congestion. Sustainably designed housing in line with Planning Policy Guidance should mitigate against these negative impacts.

EC1/EC2 and S6 – Unless job opportunities and education facilities are made available locally, capacity building and training for the local population may result in out-commuting with increased car use.

EC3 and EN4/EN5 – It is likely that more businesses and tourism-related investment will increase journey numbers. There will be a need to encourage people to use alternative forms of travel to the car, else it could lead to increased transport greenhouse gas emissions and traffic NO2 emissions with increasingly poor levels of air quality.
4.5 Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability Objectives

The SA Framework is a key component in completing the SA through synthesising the baseline information and sustainability issues into a systematic and easily understood tool that allows the effects of implementing the Core Strategy to be assessed against key areas. Though the SEA Directive does not specifically require the use of objectives or indicators in the SEA process, they are a recognised and useful way in which environmental effects can be evaluated and compared at key stages of the Core Strategy evolution.

A framework of objectives and indicators has been developed based on the review of relevant plans and programmes, the baseline information, the analysis of key sustainability issues and incorporating the consultation comments from the Scoping Report consultation.

A set of objectives has been developed with indicators against each objective. National, regional and local targets have been included where information was available. The objectives include social, environmental and economic objectives and are distinct from the Core Strategy’s objectives. The objectives have been worded to take account of local conditions and concerns feeding from the analysis on sustainability issues.

A preliminary set of indicators were derived to capture the change likely to arise from the implementation of the Core Strategy and will play a role in the assessment
itself. As the SA progresses, it is likely that the set of indicators will be refined. Where appropriate, existing data sources and indicators which are already monitored in the authority have been used. In some cases, specific new indicators are proposed which will require monitoring by relevant bodies, should significant effects relating to the SA objectives concerned be identified as part of the assessment of effects during Stage B. Where there are existing indicators and targets, the relevant data source is provided. The final SA framework is presented in Table 5 to Table 7.

### 4.5.1 Social Indicators

#### Table 5: List of social indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S1 - Social inclusion and equity across all sectors.</td>
<td>Will it encourage people to live and work in the area?</td>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>Census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it promote diversity?</td>
<td>Ethnic makeup of population</td>
<td>Census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce levels of deprivation in the area? Will it address the needs of disadvantaged and minority groups?</td>
<td>Percentage of super output areas that are within the 25% most deprived in England</td>
<td>IMD2004, DCLG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it promote equality in employment?</td>
<td>Change in the employment rates for males and females</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it promote religious and racial understanding?</td>
<td>Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously</td>
<td>Community Strategy Part 2, CO2.3; Under development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 - Improve the health and wellbeing of North East Lincolnshire’s population.</td>
<td>Will it improve people’s health and reduce ill-health?</td>
<td>Percentage of population in good/fairly good health</td>
<td>Census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with the authority’s sports and leisure facilities</td>
<td>BV119a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of adults (16+) participating in at least 30 min of moderate intensity sport and active recreation at least 3 times a week</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Life expectancy at birth</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1996-2005 for male and female life expectancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the number of people on key benefits?</td>
<td>Number of people of working age claiming benefits</td>
<td>Nomis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the incidence of death?</td>
<td>Number of deaths from cancer</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1996-2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of deaths from all circulatory diseases</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1996-2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of deaths per 1000 population</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td>Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>S3 - Safety and security for people and property in North East Lincolnshire.</td>
<td>Will it reduce incidents of environmental health breaches?</td>
<td>Number of deaths from suicide and undetermined injury</td>
<td>Community Strategy Part 2, QoL 7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce teenage pregnancy?</td>
<td>Score against a checklist of best practice for environmental health enforcement</td>
<td>BV166a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the incidence of crime?</td>
<td>Percentage change in the number of conceptions in women aged under 18 years, compared with year 1998</td>
<td>BV197 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the fear of crime?</td>
<td>Overall crime rate</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 2003-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Burglary rate - recorded burglaries per 1000 households</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1999-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Robbery rate - recorded robberies per 1000 population</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1999-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vehicle crime rate - recorded vehicle crimes per 1000 population</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 1999-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of racial incidents recorded per 100,000 population</td>
<td>BV174 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the Borough's roads?</td>
<td>Percentage of residents who feel safe after dark in their local area</td>
<td>NELC Residents Survey, 2003, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it increase engagement in community activities?</td>
<td>Number of visits per 1000 population to libraries</td>
<td>BV117 - discontinued; replaced by BV220 in 2005-06 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?</td>
<td>Percentage of people who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area</td>
<td>NELC Residents Survey, 2003, 2005; Progress in the Humber 2006 for regional and national data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S4 - Vibrant communities that participate in decision making.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Objective</td>
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<tr>
<td>areas and culture, leisure and recreation available to all.</td>
<td>Number of visits per 1000 population to museums</td>
<td>BV170a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proportion of households living within 1 mile of a static library coverage</td>
<td>PLSS1a/CPA C2a, NELC Performance Report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of pupils in organised school trips visiting museums and galleries</td>
<td>BV170c - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it promote access to sports and leisure activities? Will it promote healthy lifestyles?</td>
<td>Percentage of population that is within 20 minutes travel time (urban - walking; rural - driving) from at least three sports venues</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it encourage participation by all user groups?</td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with sports and leisure facilities</td>
<td>BV119a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with museums</td>
<td>BV119c - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open spaces</td>
<td>BV119e - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S6 -Reduce the need to travel by private car.</td>
<td>Will it reduce the need to travel to key resources and services by means other than the car?</td>
<td>Percentage of total length of footpaths and other rights of way which were easy to use by members of the public</td>
<td>BV178 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it reduce the need to own a car?</td>
<td>Car ownership in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>Census</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S7 -Good access to and encourage use of public transport, walking and cycling.</td>
<td>Will it improve use of public transport?</td>
<td>Number of local bus passenger journeys per year</td>
<td>BV102 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it improve access to goods and services by public transport?</td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with local bus services</td>
<td>BV104 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S8 -A transport network that maximises access whilst integrating all modes of effective non-car based movements.</td>
<td>Will it alter the preferred method of travel for residents, with more use of alternatives other than car?</td>
<td>Method of travel by resident population in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>National Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Method of travel by daytime population in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>National Statistics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it improve the condition of local roads?</td>
<td>Condition of Principal roads</td>
<td>BV96; changed to BV223 in 2005-06 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Percentage of non-classified road network where maintenance should be considered</td>
<td>BV97b; changed to BV224b in 2005-06 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td>Source</td>
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<tr>
<td>S9 - Good quality housing available to everyone.</td>
<td>Will it improve accessibility to affordable housing?</td>
<td>Dwelling stock</td>
<td>NeSS, Dwelling stock by tenure and condition, 2001-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Affordability ratio</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006 (Pg 44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surplus/shortfall of housing</td>
<td>NELC Housing Needs Survey 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of affordable housing completions</td>
<td>NELC Housing Needs Survey 2004 for 2002-04, Pg 36/Regional AMR Core Table 2d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it make housing available to people in need taking into account requirements of location, size, type and affordability?</td>
<td>Number of housing completions per annum</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduction in homelessness - Recommended by NELPCT</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social rented housing - demand and supply</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Average property prices and average income in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>Land Registry; Nomis ASHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it improve the quality of housing stock?</td>
<td>Percentage of unfit owner occupied and private rented dwellings</td>
<td>NeSS Dwelling stock by tenure and condition 2001-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of social sector (local authority and Registered Social Landlord owned) non-decent housing</td>
<td>PSA floor targets NRF report - from 2001-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it make the homes more liveable?</td>
<td>Number of private sector dwellings returned to occupation or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority</td>
<td>BV64 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S10 - Preserve and enhance North East Lincolnshire’s rural landscapes and public open spaces.</td>
<td>Will it improve the condition or accessibility of parks and open spaces?</td>
<td>Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open spaces</td>
<td>BV119e - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in S5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amount of green space gained through development - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Same as in EN3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of parks that have achieved Green Flag status</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council Liveability Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it improve the condition of the waterfront?</td>
<td>Beaches with Blue Flag status</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it improve accessibility to appropriate sites?</td>
<td>Percentage of footpaths/public rights of way which are easy to use</td>
<td>BV178 - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in S6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 4.5.2 Economic indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EC1 - Good quality employment opportunities available to everyone.</strong></td>
<td>Will it impact the economic activity profile of the area?</td>
<td>Economic activity</td>
<td>Census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it increase the proportion of working age people in employment?</td>
<td>Percentage of people of working age in employment</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-03/Regional AMR Economy Table 5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it provide employment opportunities for local people?</td>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-03/Regional AMR Economy Table 5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it increase the number of jobs available?</td>
<td>Percentage change in the number of jobs available</td>
<td>Nomis - Jobs density</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the number of long term unemployed?</td>
<td>Proportion of unemployed people claiming benefit who have been out of work for over 12 months</td>
<td>Nomis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it promote or support equal employment opportunities? Will it offer employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups?</td>
<td>Economically active residents with LLTI</td>
<td>Census CAS021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of job seeker allowance claimants 24 years and under</td>
<td>Nomis claimant count - age and duration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EC2 - Good education and training opportunities that build skills and capacity of the population.</strong></td>
<td>Will it improve the standards of education in the area?</td>
<td>Percentage of 15 year old pupils in maintained schools achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades</td>
<td>BV38 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of pupils achieving level 4+ in Key Stage 2 Maths and English</td>
<td>BV40 and 41 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it impact on the educational attainment of the residents, e.g., number of people with degrees?</td>
<td>Percentage of population of working age without qualification</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of people of working age with NVQ4+ qualification</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of working age population receiving job related training in last four weeks</td>
<td>Nomis - APS 04-05, LFS 1999-04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proportion of youngsters participating in Higher Education</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EC3 - Conditions that enable business success, economic growth and</strong></td>
<td>Will it lead to an increase in company formation?</td>
<td>VAT registrations per 10,000 resident adults aged 16+</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage change in VAT registrations</td>
<td>Nomis</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Will it encourage investment and competitiveness?</td>
<td>Amount of completed employment land by type (sq m gross floor space)</td>
<td>Regional AMR Core Table 1a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 4.5.3 Environmental indicators

**Table 7: List of environmental indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN1 - Efficient land use that maximises the use of derelict sites and brownfield land</td>
<td>Will it encourage the development of homes on previously developed land?</td>
<td>Proportions of new homes built on previously developed land (including conversions)</td>
<td>BV106 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it make more homes liveable?</td>
<td>Number of private sector dwellings returned to occupation or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority</td>
<td>BV64 - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in S9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN2 - Maintain and improve a quality built environment, and preserve the historic and archaeological sites in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>Will it protect listed buildings?</td>
<td>Stock of listed buildings</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of listed buildings 'at risk'</td>
<td>Regional AMR Environment Table 9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it preserve areas identified as important for conservation?</td>
<td>Number of conservation areas</td>
<td>BV219a - North East Lincolnshire Council/ Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it affect sites of archaeological importance?</td>
<td>Number of sites of archaeological importance</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it affect sites of architectural or historic importance?</td>
<td>Number of buildings listed as of architectural or historic importance</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it help to enhance the public realm?</td>
<td>Percentage of residents who are satisfied with the cleanliness standard in their area</td>
<td>BV89 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN3 - Conserve and enhance a biodiverse, attractive and accessible natural</td>
<td>Will it increase the areas of Local Nature Reserve?</td>
<td>Area of Local Nature Reserve</td>
<td>Lincolnshire BAP (Page U-18), Map from Magic website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number and area covered by Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) - Recommended by English Nature</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council Ecology Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td>Source</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it have a detrimental impact on the presence or condition of Local Nature Reserves or local biodiversity/ geodiversity?</td>
<td>Percentage of sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) in favourable condition - Recommended by English Nature</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006/Map from Magic website</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it encourage local wildlife?</td>
<td>Woodland bird population index</td>
<td>Available at regional level - Progress in the Humber report 2006/Regional AMR Environment Table 9.2 at regional level</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount of wildlife corridor restored or new corridor created - Recommended by English Nature</td>
<td>Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) <a href="http://www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk">www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it improve the condition or accessibility of parks and open spaces?</td>
<td>Number of residents satisfied with parks and open spaces</td>
<td>BV119e - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in S5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount of green space gained through development - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Information not collected yet - to incorporate monitoring into Planning's Ocella system</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it encourage or preserve woodland cover?</td>
<td>Hectares of forest developed</td>
<td>Community Strategy Part 2 - UR4.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total woodland cover</td>
<td>The Strategic Framework for trees, woodlands and forests in Yorkshire and Humber region Report (July 2005)/Regional AMR Environment Table 9.10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it preserve/enhance open watercourses?</td>
<td>Number of planning applications which result in net loss/gain of open water courses - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Information not collected yet - to incorporate monitoring into Planning's Ocella system</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Survey of water vole populations - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council Ecology Officer for vole survey on Cleethorpes Country Park</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of developments with Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Information not collected yet - to incorporate monitoring into Planning's Ocella system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it protect and enhance existing priority habitats and species?</td>
<td>Percentage of conservation areas with an up-to-date character appraisal</td>
<td>BV219b - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td>Percentage of conservation areas with published management proposals</td>
<td>BV219c - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td>Source</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of priority habitats and species by type</td>
<td>Number of priority habitats and species by type</td>
<td>Lincolnshire BAP <a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk/lbap.aspx?id=382#5">http://www.ukbap.org.uk/lbap.aspx?id=382#5</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural land subject to an environmental stewardship scheme and/or other environmentally focussed schemes - Recommended by English Nature</td>
<td>Amount of agricultural land subject to an environmental stewardship scheme and/or other environmentally focussed schemes - Recommended by English Nature</td>
<td>MAGIC website/Regional AMR Environment Table 9.13 for Humberside</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it promote access to wildlife on appropriate sites?</td>
<td>Percentage of footpaths/public rights of way which are easy to use</td>
<td>BV178 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources?</td>
<td>Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources?</td>
<td>Percentage of pollution control improvements completed on time</td>
<td>BV217 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</td>
<td>Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</td>
<td>Average SAP rating of local authority/privately owned dwellings</td>
<td>BV63 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN4 - Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change.</td>
<td>EN4 - Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and develop a managed response to the effects of climate change.</td>
<td>Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions from domestic, commercial and industrial sources?</td>
<td>BV217 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</td>
<td>Will it plan and implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</td>
<td>Average SAP rating of local authority/privately owned dwellings</td>
<td>BV63 - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>EN5 - Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>EN5 - Improve air quality in North East Lincolnshire</td>
<td>Will it improve air quality?</td>
<td>Community Strategy CO1.4a/ Data at regional level in Progress in the Humber report 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it help to achieve the objectives of the Air Quality Management Plan?</td>
<td>Will it help to achieve the objectives of the Air Quality Management Plan?</td>
<td>Monitoring of air quality in AQMA designated areas - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council Pollution Control team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?</td>
<td>Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?</td>
<td>Percentage of pollution control improvements completed on time</td>
<td>BV217 - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in EN4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN6 – Prudent and efficient use of energy, water and other natural resources.</td>
<td>EN6 – Prudent and efficient use of energy, water and other natural resources.</td>
<td>Will it improve the energy efficiency of housing?</td>
<td>Community Strategy Part 2, CO1.4c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it improve the energy efficiency of housing?</td>
<td>Will it improve the energy efficiency of housing?</td>
<td>Number of measures for improving home energy efficiency to reducing the problem of fuel poverty installed directly attributable to the Council</td>
<td>LPSA9 - North East Lincolnshire Council Home Energy Promotions Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average SAP rating of local authority/privately owned dwellings</td>
<td>Average SAP rating of local authority/privately owned dwellings</td>
<td>BV63 - North East Lincolnshire Council; Same as in EN4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improvement in domestic energy efficiency (%) from Apr 96 to Mar 04</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it reduce energy consumption?</td>
<td>GJ of energy saved</td>
<td>LPSA9 - North East Lincolnshire Council Home Energy Promotions Officer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it reduce fossil fuel consumption?</td>
<td>CO2 emissions per capita (kg)</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
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<td>CO2 emissions per sector (tonnes per year)</td>
<td>Community Strategy Part 2, CO1.4d</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Electricity consumption/sales</td>
<td>DTI <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/regional-local-electricity/page36213.html">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/regional-local-electricity/page36213.html</a></td>
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<td>Road transport consumption</td>
<td>DTI <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/road-transport/page36199.html">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/road-transport/page36199.html</a></td>
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<td>Gas consumption/sales</td>
<td>DTI <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/regional-local-gas/page36200.html">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/regional-local-gas/page36200.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Will it develop renewable energy resources?</td>
<td>Energy used that was generated by renewable sources or waste as a proportion of regional domestic energy consumption (%)</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006/Regional AMR Core Table 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it help in the prudent use of water?</td>
<td>Target achieved for water abstraction locally from surface and ground water - <strong>Recommended by EA</strong></td>
<td>EA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it help in saving energy/water in new developments? - <strong>Recommended by EA</strong></td>
<td>Percentage of new build homes meeting EcoHomes 'good' or 'very good' standards</td>
<td>No information available yet. Process needs to be put in place to fit with Annual Monitoring Statements of Planning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of commercial buildings meeting BREEAM 'good' or 'very good' standards</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EN7 – Reduce pollution and waste generation and increase</td>
<td>Will it reduce the amount of waste produced?</td>
<td>Kilograms of household waste collected per head of population</td>
<td>BV84a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce the waste sent to landfill?</td>
<td>Percentage of household waste arisings that have been landfilled</td>
<td>BV82d - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators</td>
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<td>levels of reuse and recycling.</td>
<td>Will it increase household waste recycling?</td>
<td>Percentage of household waste arisings that have been recycled</td>
<td>BV82a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Percentage of household waste sent for composting/treatment by anaerobic digestion</td>
<td>BV82b - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Percentage of household waste arisings that have been used to recover energy</td>
<td>BV82c - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td>Will it improve the opportunities for recycling?</td>
<td>Percentage of population served by kerbside recycling collection</td>
<td>BV91a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Will it increase reuse/recovery from waste?</td>
<td>Capacity of new waste management facilities by type</td>
<td>Regional AMR Core Table 6a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it improve the state of open land and highways?</td>
<td>Proportion of relevant land and highways assessed as having unacceptable levels of litter and detritus</td>
<td>BV199a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will it reduce soil pollution?</td>
<td>Amount of local authority derelict or degraded land and amount restored to use</td>
<td>Regional AMR Environment Table 9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Number of sites 'potential concern' with respect to land contamination</td>
<td>BV216a - North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN8 - Maintain and improve water quality.</td>
<td>Will it protect and enhance the area's controlled water?</td>
<td>Percentage of river/estuary in authority area whose biological/chemical quality is rated as good or fair</td>
<td>Progress in the Humber 2006</td>
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<td>Number of water related pollution incidents</td>
<td>EA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on water quality - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Regional AMR Core Table 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nitrate vulnerable areas</td>
<td>Map from Magic website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN9 - Reduce the impact of flooding on people, property and natural environment in North East Lincolnshire.</td>
<td>Will it reduce risk from flooding? Will it manage the effects of climate change from flooding? Will it ensure no new inappropriate developments in the flood plain?</td>
<td>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Regional AMR Core Table 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of planning applications approved in flood risk areas</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council Planning team; Same as in EN4</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Annual sea level rise</td>
<td>Regional AMR Resource Management Table 10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of developments with Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) - Recommended by EA</td>
<td>Same as in EN3</td>
</tr>
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</table>
5. **ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES**

The SEA Directive requires that the Environmental Report should consider:

‘reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme’ and give ‘an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with’ (Article 5.1 and Annex I).

Strategic policy options were developed by the Council. These options were assessed, in broad terms, in order to determine their performance in sustainability terms, with reference to the social, environmental and economic factors.

The assessment of the range of strategic policy options available for achieving the objectives under consideration was done. The assessment has been undertaken primarily using expert judgement which is recognised in the guidance as being an acceptable and appropriate technique to be used at this stage. The assessment of strategic options is presented below.
## 5.1 Appraisal of Options

### 5.1.1 KP1 Spatial Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Appraisal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1 - Is it appropriate to establish a hierarchy of settlements and distribute development accordingly?</td>
<td>The approach addresses whether it should be a level playing field for development potential across the Borough. It is generally felt that growth should respect the size and nature of settlements for future allocations.</td>
<td>Hierarchical distribution of development can help to achieve more sustainable development. Development must be located where the infrastructure is suitable while helping to reduce the need to travel must also be a consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2 - Is it appropriate to disperse development across the settlements of the Borough permitting greenfield development - irrespective of brownfield development options?</td>
<td>The approach addresses the option whether development should go beyond urban areas into greenfield sites. According to national and regional policy, it should be more brownfield site orientated rather than greenfield sites. Hence, the option was rejected.</td>
<td>According to national and regional policy, developments must primarily be more brownfield site orientated rather than on greenfield sites. This will help to ensure the efficient use of land and reclamation of derelict and disused sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3 - Should development be concentrated within the urban area focussed on regeneration, and greenfield development limited to exceptions to sites well related to the urban area?</td>
<td>The option concentrates development within the urban areas and on regeneration, with limits on greenfield development. There is an emphasis on accessibility and walkable catchments. It minimises the need to travel.</td>
<td>As walkable catchments minimise the need to travel, it helps in minimising the associated environmental and social impacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 4 - Should the separation and independent character of settlements be retained?</td>
<td>The option focuses on preserving gaps between settlements as a buffer between urban areas and rural settlements. It acknowledges the need to address the impacts on the environment on future development.</td>
<td>The approach follows a strategic gap policy that is more environmentally sensitive. It will maintain the character and appearance of individual settlements and prevent their coalescence. It will also help to reduce habitat fragmentation and maintain a network of natural habitats.</td>
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### KP2 Sustainable Development Principles

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<tr>
<td><strong>Option 5 - Is it appropriate to outline sustainable principles that address local circumstances and context?</strong></td>
<td>Sustainability principles should incorporate national and regional agenda as well as issues of local significance. It establishes sustainability as the core principle behind planning decisions.</td>
<td>The approach emphasises the need for development to be achieved in ways which contribute to creating quality environments providing safe, attractive and accessible places with a framework of social community and service facilities, while respecting the environment. Promoting regeneration, an increased population, improved public realm and better quality and mix of housing should increase inward investment and employment and thereby, have a long term positive effect on the local economy reducing disparity with the surrounding areas.</td>
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<td>There is a need for North East Lincolnshire to contribute to meeting defined regional renewable energy needs by 2021. These targets are based on the percentage of energy used that comes from renewable resources. To meet these targets, there needs to be an increase in energy generation from renewable sources, though the primary consideration is to reduce overall energy consumption by ensuring the more efficient use of energy. It is very likely that a significant proportion of the renewable energy generation in the future does not come from national Grid schemes, but is part of an on-site provision to meet on site need. This approach is more energy efficient as it saves the energy loss during transmission and does not have the peripheral environmental impacts such as the need for power lines. It is suitable for the LDF Core Strategy to clearly set out as a strategic issue the need for new development, above a threshold size, to deliver a proportion of energy from renewable sources. Those preparing the LDF need to set out what the threshold size level of this type of development should be, as well as the percentage that should be from renewable sources.</td>
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## 5.1.3 KP3 - Implementation

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<tr>
<td>Option 6 - Should the Council's role in implementation be specifically identified?</td>
<td>To ensure an effective delivery of the Core Strategy policies, the proposed approach outlines the implementation approaches that will be adopted by the Council.</td>
<td>Planning decisions will be made by the Council in accordance with the Strategy and other elements of the development plan unless other issues or circumstances outweigh this. The Council must seek more developer contributions towards measures required in association with the development. Development must only be permitted if the necessary infrastructure, services, facilities and amenities to meet the needs of the development are available or will be provided at the appropriate time. These include affordable housing, improvements to public realm, leisure facilities, biodiversity, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 7 - Should a partnership approach to implementation and delivery of LDF objectives be identified?</td>
<td>It is recognised that successful implementation of Core Strategy is dependent on partnership arrangements with private companies, public bodies, voluntary organisations and other agencies.</td>
<td>Implementation and delivery are key to the success of the Core Strategy. The monitoring requirements of both the plan and the SA/SEA will look closely at which aspects are performing well, and which need further attention to ensure delivery.</td>
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### 5.1.4 CP1 Employment Generating Development

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<tr>
<td>Option 8 - Should strategic employment zones be identified and safeguarded, that recognise the growth and expansion of the Humber Ports and related employment sectors?</td>
<td>The proposed approach recognises the importance of economic growth in context of the Humber Trade Zone and Northern Way initiative, and the role of North East Lincolnshire as the economic gateway to the region and as a tourist destination.</td>
<td>From a sustainability perspective, the managed use of employment land appropriate to their setting and location can play an important role in meeting social/economic objectives. It will help to reduce exclusion and deprivation by providing suitable employment opportunities for local people through a vibrant local economy and enhanced employment sectors. Protecting existing employment land uses is likely to ease pressure on greenfield sites for employment land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 9 - Is there a need to place an emphasis on identifying and maintaining urban employment needs?</td>
<td>The approach recognises the changing circumstances of existing employment sites in the urban areas and the opportunities that may arise from the redevelopment of these sites. However, there remains a need to identify and safeguard employment sites within the urban areas that provide sustainable sites for businesses of an appropriate scale, nature and character - smaller sites for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in urban areas while retaining out of town sites for bigger enterprises with fewer issues about HGVs.</td>
<td>Major industrial and retail development is likely to attract external investment to the Borough, but much of the economic benefit may leave the Borough, as the employers of a scale suitable for major locations are likely to be national or multinational companies. The regenerative and local benefits may thus be limited to some low-skill employment, and the positive economic effects for the Borough smaller than hoped.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 10 - Should the framework address market patterns accepting the loss of urban employment sites to other uses?</td>
<td>The option seeks to build on existing strengths, respond to market influences, promote sustainable development patterns, increase overall accessibility and seize new opportunities. It is about transition where the system provides flexibility so that location reflects market. Although the Council seeks to protect a supply of readily available industrial employment land, national and regional policy require that the supply be reviewed and that surplus land be identified for alternative uses, especially for residential development. If no land is available for economic expansion outside the urban areas, it constrains development making the area no longer attractive while losing competitiveness.</td>
<td>This approach allows the more efficient use of land as by reassessing employment sites, it may be possible to identify those that are surplus to requirements, and/or do not appear to be coming forward for development, and reallocate them for housing. The reallocation must be based on a thorough understanding of the long term employment needs of the area and should not harm the economic sustainability objectives. Development must be prioritised on previously developed land, subject to environmental constraints, in all situations. Out of these employment sites, the ones in more central and accessible locations may be considered first for reallocation for housing.</td>
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<td>Option 11 - Should the approach reflect an environmental risk based approach that constrains economic development?</td>
<td>The option addresses a potential area of conflict - balancing environmental consideration with economic development. To protect the environment, more land needs to be allocated for development to say, be able to create green corridors for the mitigation of environmental effects.</td>
<td>From a sustainability perspective, it may be preferred at times to restrict development in some areas - those unsuitable on long-term transport, environment or social grounds regardless of short term economic benefit.</td>
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### 5.1.5 CP2 Town Centres and Retail

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<tr>
<td>Option 12 - Is it appropriate to identify a retail hierarchy of town and local centres, and identify appropriate scales of growth?</td>
<td>The proposed approach establishes the town centres as the first preference for major retail development. In combination with other town, district and local centres, a hierarchical structure is proposed that provides a range of shopping and local services that allow choice to meet the needs of the community. For out of centre locations, preference will be given to sites which are or will be well serviced by a choice of transport means and which are close to the centre and have a high likelihood of forming links with the centre. There is also the issue whether there is a need to protect and promote retail areas at the fringes.</td>
<td>Under PPS6, local planning authorities must apply the sequential approach in their development plans to support retail and related town centre use developments at more central locations. The overall growth of retail and new floorspace should be based on needs and the ability of the authority to accommodate these facilities sustainably without the need for unnecessary use of greenfield land or development in locations only easily accessible by private transport modes. Priority for all types of shops must be given to the town centre in line with national policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 13 - Is there a need to establish a policy approach that rigorously promotes vitality and viability of town centres?</td>
<td>Opportunities to maximise potential of town centres sites are proposed including opportunities to provide central area housing as an integral element of mixed use developments. Developments will be expected to contribute to upgrading the environment and the attractiveness/accessibility of the centre.</td>
<td>The Town Centre is the preferred focus for new development, particularly new offices and retail provision. Supporting retail development in the town centre is most suitable as it is most accessible to the maximum amount of people by public transport, both who live in the town and in the surrounding rural areas, as well as providing a mix of services so more needs can be fulfilled in a single trip.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 14 - Should existing patterns of retailing, including out of centre locations be recognised and identified as areas of growth?</td>
<td>It addresses the issue of out of centre locations as areas of growth versus areas for consolidation and diversification within the site. Development on these sites will be limited to consolidation and diversification within the boundaries of existing retail development.</td>
<td>Government guidance in PPS6 states that local planning authorities, after considering the need for development, the likely impacts on other existing sites for town centres and accessibility, should identify and allocate sites for town centre development consistent with the sequential approach. The proposed option could lead to the creation of ad-hoc retail provision and investment in accessible locations. It may also diminish regeneration opportunities in town centre consistent with its status as a major centre. Out of centre sites should be identified where there is a proven need and these sites should be in locations with access by public transport, walking and cycling rather than only by people using their cars.</td>
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5.1.6 CP3 Housing Provision

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<tr>
<td>Option 15 - Should the strategy focus development within urban areas on previously developed land?</td>
<td>The focus will be on seeking the reuse of previously developed land and buildings in preference to greenfield development. There is a target of at least 50% of homes to be built on previously developed land over the period 2004-2021.</td>
<td>Locating development primarily on previously developed land helps to ensure the efficient use of land and the reclamation of derelict and disused sites. This is in keeping with national policy as well as the sustainability agenda. It helps to reduce the need to develop on greenfield land and also help to improve the built environment through land remediation. Suitable sites should be made available in relation to land at risk of flooding, protection of the historic environment and the remediation of contaminated land.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 16 - Should the strategy identify any areas of major greenfield expansion to accommodate future growth?</td>
<td>It addresses the option of giving up on brownfield land and having major expansion on greenfield. It has been rejected as it is against national and regional policy.</td>
<td>It has been rejected as it is against national and regional policy of using brownfield land in preference to greenfield. In accessible locations, particularly near railway stations and transport interchanges, development can be done at high densities to accommodate future growth, subject to accessibility considerations and good urban design principles. This would be most suitable and ensure the most efficient use of land.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 17 - Should the strategy focus development on the basis of housing demand?</td>
<td>The option explores the possibility of the strategy being based on the market demand. If the demand is more in an area, should more developments be permitted there? However, priority will be given to new development within the main urban area, principal service settlements and local service settlements in that order, consistent with the settlement hierarchy developed in Policy KP1.</td>
<td>The proposed hierarchy provides a framework for managing the scale of development in different locations steering most development to larger settlements that offer the best access to services and facilities both now and in the future. The approach helps to reduce the need to travel as well as making good use of infrastructure and previously developed land. The LDF also need to cover potential issues for a range of other housing types including the elderly, those with disabilities, and gypsies and travellers.</td>
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<td>Option 18 - Should the strategy seek to maintain the mix of properties in urban and rural locations?</td>
<td>The approach recognises the importance of maintaining the character and independence of individual settlements and the need to retain a mix of properties, particularly in rural areas to maintain rural vitality and address local rural housing need. Provision of a mixture of location, tenure, dwelling types and size of new homes to meet the Borough's needs will help to increase access to good quality housing and help alleviate some of the key social exclusion and deprivation issues while encouraging community cohesion. It will also help to maintain the character and independence of individual settlements. It should be the aim to locate all new housing in accessible areas.</td>
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<td>Option 19 - Should consideration be given to the introduction of a phasing strategy to control the release of land?</td>
<td>The approach identifies two broad phases to the development of sites. The first phase allocation 2004-2011 will review existing allocations and areas of identified urban potential. Consideration will be given to the release of land previously allocated, or in use for non-housing uses, including employment land for housing or mixed-use development. The second phase allocation will focus on opportunities to remodel urban areas supporting urban renaissance and bringing forward transformational opportunities. It takes account of the time needed to bring forward major transformational opportunities presented by larger regeneration sites in the urban centre.</td>
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### 5.1.7 CP4 Affordable Housing

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<tr>
<td>Option 20 - Is it appropriate to identify an approach that sets the trigger for seeking affordable housing provision and sets the scale of provision based on identified evidence of local need?</td>
<td>Residential developments of 15 units and above (or on sites of 0.5 ha and above) in urban areas, and 5 units and above in rural areas will be permitted provided that 20% of these dwellings are affordable housing to meet the needs of people unable to compete in the general housing market. Is there a need to set a lower trigger to increase the provision of affordable housing?</td>
<td>PPS3 sets out a national indicative minimum site size threshold of 15 dwellings. Though it may be suitable to set a lower trigger given the high requirement of affordable housing in the area, increasing the proportion to more than 20% is thought to be unsustainable given current market conditions. This scale of contribution will need to be assessed as part of annual LDF monitoring.</td>
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<td>Option 21 - Should the approach identify circumstances where development would be excluded from the provision of affordable housing based on set criteria?</td>
<td>Consideration will be given to pursuing the urban renaissance vision including the implications of providing affordable housing on site or whether an appropriate off site contribution would better meet the identified local housing need in specific circumstances (say, areas of predominantly social housing), either through new build or refurbishment of existing housing.</td>
<td>On-site provision of affordable housing is the preferred way to meet affordable housing needs. However, on certain sites where a requirement for an element of affordable housing would be inappropriate, an off site arrangement or payment in lieu of on-site provision by the developer may be considered. These may be sites where the cost of remediation measures would make the scheme unviable, or where affordable housing elsewhere in the plan area is more likely to widen and encourage better social mix. In the case of payment, this could be used to provide affordable housing elsewhere or may also be used for the rehabilitation of empty private sector properties where this would add to the stock of affordable housing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 22 - Is it appropriate to adopt an approach that addresses need across the Borough?</td>
<td>The Council's Housing Needs and Market Assessment has identified an annual overall affordable target of 409 homes. However, it identified varying needs across the borough. Should the proportion of affordable housing be consistently applied across the borough regardless of location at every site?</td>
<td>Proportion of affordable housing must be applied in situations where it can be clearly demonstrated that there is a defined local need. Considering the challenging target of 409 affordable homes a year, a borough-wide contribution of 20% contribution would not supply sufficient affordable homes to meet the annual shortfall. To meet the sustainability objective of providing good quality housing to all, it is required that the Council seeks an affordable housing contribution on all sites in accordance with the identified threshold and scale of contribution. This must apply to all greenfield and brownfield developments and to conversion of existing property.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 23 - Would it be appropriate to adopt an approach that addresses need on a local site by site basis?</td>
<td>The Council's Housing Needs and Market Assessment has identified an annual overall affordable target of 409 homes. However, it identified varying needs across the borough. Should the proportion of affordable housing be applied only in areas of demand appropriate to local circumstances?</td>
<td>On-site provision of affordable housing is the preferred way to meet affordable housing needs. However, on certain sites where a requirement for an element of affordable housing would be inappropriate, an off site arrangement or payment in lieu of on-site provision by the developer may be considered. These may be sites where the cost of remediation measures would make the scheme unviable, or where affordable housing elsewhere in the plan area is more likely to widen and encourage better social mix. In the case of payment, this could be used to provide affordable housing elsewhere or may also be used for the rehabilitation of empty private sector properties where this would add to the stock of affordable housing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 24 - Is there a need to specifically address the provision of rural affordable homes?</td>
<td>The policy recognises that in some rural areas, affordable housing issues exist but the means to provide units through a housing market scheme are unlikely to materialise as such relatively large developments would be inappropriate. Consideration is required for meeting affordable housing needs in rural areas. Exceptionally, small scale provision for affordable housing in the rural area will be made where justified by survey.</td>
<td>Development may be identified in defined rural centres on a scale appropriate to the village where it contributes to specific local needs. Only the larger, most sustainable villages should be considered for small scale development. The development on these exception sites must take account of the character of the village and its setting. The development must be located in the most sustainable location possible such as brownfield land within existing settlements, provision within existing settlements or on the periphery of settlements on brownfield land.</td>
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### 5.1.8 CP5 Transport and Accessibility

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<tr>
<td>Option 25 - Is there a need to identify an approach based on reducing the need to travel and promote accessibility?</td>
<td>It is proposed that planning permission will be granted to developments that incorporate acceptable measures widen the choice of transport options and promote increased accessibility to all. This is in line with national and regional objectives.</td>
<td>It focuses development on easily accessible areas to encourage increased use of public transport. New residents can make best use of more sustainable modes of transport, with the aim of reducing car use and allowing equitable levels of access for all.</td>
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<td>Option 26 - Is it appropriate to safeguard strategic transport improvements?</td>
<td>The proposed approach seeks to achieve identified and longer term strategic transportation improvements set out in the Local Transport Plan. It is in line with the national and regional objectives.</td>
<td>With all new development, it is vital that more sustainable transport including public transport accessibility, walking and cycling is taken into account from the outset, so that it is a fundamental component of the scheme. For sustainable development, these modes must be a real and attractive alternative to car use, and ensure accessibility to jobs, homes and services equitable for all.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 27 - Is there a need to recognise the importance of the private car and adopt measures to support car use?</td>
<td>This approach is somewhat controversial as it needs to address those circumstances when the use of private car is unavoidable.</td>
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North East Lincolnshire Council
LDF Core Strategy SEA
### 5.1.9 CP6 Design Quality

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<td>Option 28 - No options have been identified. The inclusion of a design quality policy in the Core Strategy is considered essential.</td>
<td>Good quality urban design is a vital element of urban renaissance. The proposed approach seeks to promote good design that contributes to making places better for people. Design which is inappropriate in its context, or fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character quality or functionality of an area will not be accepted.</td>
<td>Design has a crucial role to play in helping to improve people's wellbeing and quality of life, benefiting public health, increasing property values and in creating places that not only feel safe, but are safe. Design-led solutions consider the arrangement of the buildings and quality of spaces created between them. They have a positive effect on townscape, accessibility, resource and energy efficiency. It should be ensured that new buildings are designed in such a way as to contribute to their surroundings, be energy efficient, constructed in ways that minimise waste, and also that they are designed to remove opportunities for crime. It may be suitable for the Core Strategy to include policy that require new developments to meet defined sustainable construction standards, such as those defined by Eco-Homes and BREEAM tools. It may also be suitable for the LDF and Core Strategy to consider how buildings can be designed to take into account the effects of climate change to ensure that long-term future of buildings and their resource consumption are considered and designed into buildings. Summers are likely to become hotter, and therefore, homes should be designed that they can stay naturally cooler, and do not require resource-inefficient artificial air-conditioning. It may also be suitable to consider how buildings should be designed in areas that may be at risk of flooding, as climate change is likely to cause more storm events and higher winter rainfall. Water efficiency technologies in new homes should also be considered.</td>
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### 5.1.10 CP7 Flood Risk

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<td>Option 29 - No options have been identified. The inclusion of a flood risk policy in the Core Strategy is considered essential.</td>
<td>Keeping in line with national and regional guidelines, flood risk needs to be addressed. Sites will be identified and planning permission will be granted to developments that adopt a risk-based approach to the possibility of flooding. Such an approach will require due regard to be paid to the Humber Estuary Shoreline Management Plan and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</td>
<td>The Humber estuary floodplain is evidently the highest risk location for tidal flooding. Flood defences are already in place but need maintaining, and in some areas, upgrading. Development in these areas may increase the level of flood protection needed. These areas are also international nature conservation areas, and development could have significant negative effects on internationally important habitats. Strategic flood risk assessment and the sequential approach outlined in PPS25 should inform the type of development permitted. If development is permitted, site specific mitigations must be identified, e.g., raised walkways.</td>
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## 5.1.11 CP8 Community Infrastructure

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<td><strong>Option 30 - Would it be appropriate to rely upon the market to deliver community facilities?</strong></td>
<td>The approach places a reliance on the market to deliver community facilities such as village halls, health centres, education, etc. While integral for public and community benefit, these are low value uses and cannot compete financially on the open market against higher land use values such as housing or commercial use. As demand for land substantially outweighs supply, community facilities are likely to be under-provided or forced to locate in areas not well accessed by the wider community. Existing facilities are also likely to be overstretched and under-resourced if new provision is not made when allowing for new growth and development.</td>
<td>From a sustainability perspective, it is deemed unlikely that in some circumstances, the market is not a sufficient instrument to meet community needs - especially in areas of greatest social exclusion and relative poverty. It is advised that this approach is not taken forward in the policy.</td>
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<td><strong>Option 31 - Would it be appropriate to identify a mechanism through which site allocations and developer contributions would deliver sustainable communities?</strong></td>
<td>It seeks to ensure that new and/or improved services and facilities are identified in site allocations and planned and integrated in new developments. The approach seeks specific allocations or developer contribution towards the provision of community facilities.</td>
<td>It would be advantageous for developers who impact on existing infrastructure and resources, help to contribute towards providing the important community facilities for the well-being of the population. It is also possible to extend the use of school buildings to community uses at times when the schools are not in use - this would ensure more efficient use of land by combining the use of sites.</td>
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### 5.1.12 CP9 Sport Recreation and Green Space

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<td>Option 32 - Should the strategy safeguard open space, sport and recreation facilities on the basis of identified local standards?</td>
<td>This approach is in line with national guidance which seeks to identify standards in the authority and protect the existing facilities, except where an assessment identifies the open spaces or buildings/land to be surplus to requirements, or facilities to be lost replaced by provision of replacement facilities of at least equivalent size, usefulness, attractiveness and quality in a suitable location.</td>
<td>It seeks to protect and enhance existing community facilities and provide additional services, targeted at neighbourhoods most in need. Significant gains can be expected for health, social inclusion, education, re-use of land, open spaces and biodiversity.</td>
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<td>Option 33 - Should the framework for the delivery of new facilities, and the improvement of existing facilities, address both quantitative and qualitative needs?</td>
<td>The approach seeks to ensure that the new facilities and improvements are fit for purpose and that they meet local need. It seeks increased provision/enhancement of existing facilities where development increases local needs or where the quantity or quality of provision is inadequate or under threat.</td>
<td>Delivery of facilities needs to take into account current need and future demographic changes. Provision of good quality facilities contribute to the sustainable development objectives relating to health and community wellbeing.</td>
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<td>Option 34 - Should the strategy safeguard all existing provision?</td>
<td>Rather than safeguarding all existing provision, consideration will be given to the relocation of existing provision in order to meet the local needs more effectively or make better overall recreational use of land.</td>
<td>There needs to be an understanding of the existing needs and provision for these facilities. This will help to identify sites that may be surplus and could be suitable for redevelopment to ensure the efficient use of land.</td>
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### 5.1.13 CP10 Environment

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<td><strong>Option 35</strong> - The inclusion of a policy in the Core Strategy that addresses environmental and historic assets is considered to be essential.</td>
<td>The Government is committed to protecting and enhancing the quality of the natural and historic environment. The areas of national and international importance within and adjacent to the authority boundaries should receive the highest level of protection. Other important local issues are reuse of derelict/contaminated land, energy efficiency, air quality, water abstraction, renewable energy, etc.</td>
<td>It sets the framework for effective protection of habitats and species in accordance with legislation. It also makes provisions that all new developments take the natural environment into account by providing information on the potential effects, encouraging development to interact with nature in a mutually beneficial way. All development must focus on biodiversity conservation and enhancement and protect the landscape and features. It should consider that wildlife also exists outside of designated sites and thus, new development should provide information on the existing natural environment, enhance biodiversity while creating new habitats. New developments should take account of the historic environment through enhancing areas of cultural importance. The character of the area may be preserved by ensuring that new development is of suitable quality and design. The authority has two declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). Location of new development should be outside these designated areas. Identifying areas where potential problems may arise may help to prevent pollution in these areas, which may be easier than trying to reduce pollution after the effects have been felt.</td>
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### 5.1.14 CP11 Tourism

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<td>Option 36 - Should tourism development be focussed upon identified areas recognising sensitive landscapes and environmental assets?</td>
<td>The proposed approach recognises that Cleethorpes Resort is the main focus for tourism activities. The Cleethorpes Integrated Development Plan promotes a series of projects to revitalise and extend the resort's offerings. There is a commitment to encourage and develop further investment that will enhance the popularity of the resort.</td>
<td>The proposal promotes tourism activities in the Resort while respecting sensitive landscapes, recognising flood risk constraints and the capacity of the local infrastructure.</td>
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<td>Option 37 - Should tourism be promoted across the Borough?</td>
<td>Tourism is a vital component of the economy of the Borough. The potential of Grimsby Town Centre to widen the tourism offer as part of a longer term comprehensive redevelopment, and the tourism potential associated with the Borough's natural and landscape aspects needs to be highlighted.</td>
<td>Tourism may be promoted across the Borough keeping possible environmental consequences in mind. Building on tourism will increase the economic value of the area besides meeting sustainability objectives relating to cultural heritage, enhancing the built environment and community identity. However, it may result in increased car travel and parking needs.</td>
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### 5.1.15 CP12 Rural Development

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<td>Option 38 - Is it appropriate to seek to sustain rural communities by making provision for development that meets local social and economic needs, and thus constrain market forces?</td>
<td>The proposed approach seeks to maintain the viability of rural areas. It supports sustainable rural development and diversification that meets identified local social and economic needs, and supports rural enterprise that provides local jobs. It recognises the importance of existing community facilities and services.</td>
<td>The proposal acknowledges that rural environments are sensitive to new development and that care is required to pursue good quality development that enhances local distinctiveness and the intrinsic qualities of the countryside. Accessibility is a key consideration in all rural development decisions.</td>
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<td>Option 39 - Is it appropriate to promote diversification of the rural economy with no ties to local needs?</td>
<td>The proposed approach seeks to support sustainable rural development and diversification that meets identified local social and economic needs. It recognises the importance of existing community facilities and services while resisting urban sprawl.</td>
<td>Local needs and accessibility must be the key criteria for promoting diversification. The distinctiveness and intrinsic quality of the countryside must be maintained.</td>
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<td>Option 40 - Should protection be given to rural services and facilities?</td>
<td>Development that would result in the loss of rural community facilities or services will be expected to provide evidence that the use of the site or building for community use would be unsuitable, unviable or not achievable within a reasonable timeframe.</td>
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### 5.1.16 CP13 Waste Management

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<td><strong>Option 41 - Is it appropriate to establish a strategy for waste management based upon local solutions for local waste?</strong></td>
<td>The provision of local facilities to address local waste issues is a key priority as the basis for addressing local self-sufficiency in accordance with the proximity principle. There may be a consideration of facilities that may be operated on a 'shared' basis with neighbouring local authorities where this offers the most sustainable waste solution.</td>
<td>The Core Strategy will have a key role to play in determining where new waste sites will be located. However, there is no indication in the document what the needs for waste sites will be in the area, so no real options can be drawn up for the location of these facilities. Without more detail on the need, it is not possible to say with any certainty, the effectiveness of the policy. If any new large waste management facility is proposed to be built in the area over the plan period, it may be suitable to set out possible locations as early as possible so that these can be tested through the LDF process and to be able to evaluate the potential effects with other proposed development.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Option 42 - Should the approach place reliance on landfill in the Borough?</strong></td>
<td>The Landfill Directive emphasises on reducing the environmental impact from the landfilling of wastes and reducing our reliance on this waste management option.</td>
<td>The policy should consider waste minimisation and reuse of construction and demolition waste. Construction waste should be kept to a minimum through construction planning as advocated under the BREEAM toolkit. Refurbishment of buildings should be prioritised over demolition and redevelopment where practicable in order to save primary resources, subject to compatibility with other sustainability considerations.</td>
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The main objective for waste is to reduce the consumption of primary resources and avoid the final disposal to landfill. Reliance on landfill is against national and regional policy. Not being able to meet the landfilling targets will be very expensive for the authority under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. In keeping with these considerations, the authority promotes waste minimisation, recycling and reuse to achieve identified targets.
### 5.1.17 CP14 Minerals

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<td>Option 43 - No options have been identified. The Core Strategy policy provides a framework upon which to prepare future policies as part of a future Development Plan Document.</td>
<td>There are no active or dormant mineral sites with valid planning permission in the Borough. No areas of search have been proposed and there is no current indication or expectation of development at any specific site. The policy seeks to safeguard existing facilities and associated sites needed for the transportation of minerals through the Borough.</td>
<td>New planning permission for mineral exploitation will be given if there are indications of availability and where a need is proven. However, these sites would have to keep environmental considerations in mind including flood risk, nature conservation, landscape, transport, etc. Reuse of waste should help to reduce the demand for primary mineral resources.</td>
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6. ASSESSMENT OF PREFERRED OPTIONS

The SEA Directive states that in the Environmental Report:

‘the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme…...and reasonable alternatives....are [to be] identified, described and evaluated’ (Article 5.1). The Environmental Report should include information that may ‘reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme [and] its stage in the decision-making process’ (Article 5.2).

In addition, the SEA Directive requires the Environmental Report to outline measures to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme (Annex I (g)).

A compatibility assessment of the Core Strategy’s spatial objectives as compared with the SA Objectives was carried out. This ensured that the overall aims of the Core Strategy were in accordance with the SA objectives and identified potential conflicts and areas for further investigation as part of the detailed sustainability appraisal (presented in Section 6.1.1 and Table 8).

The methodology adopted for the assessment of the Preferred Options is broadbrush and qualitative - generally accepted as good practice by the SA guidance. The assessment of the Core Strategy was broken down into prediction, evaluation and mitigation of effects.

The prediction of effects involved the identification of the potential changes to the sustainability baseline conditions which were considered to arise from the development principles being proposed by the Core Strategy. The predicted effects were then described in terms of their nature and magnitude.

The next stage of the assessment involved the evaluation of the significant effects. The evaluation involved forming a judgement on whether or not the predicted effects would be environmentally significant. Qualitative assessment based on expert judgement was primarily used to assess the significance of effects. Other techniques included consultation with stakeholders involved in the SA process, geographical information systems and reference to key legislation.

The assessment adopted the qualitative five point scale (as shown in Table 2) to assess the significance of effects of the policies. Strongly positive/negative and positive/negative effects have been considered of significance whereas neutral effects have been considered non-significant.

Annex I of the SEA Directive requires that the assessment of effects include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects. Testing the consistency between the Core Strategy and SA objectives has highlighted the potential for cumulative effects against specific Core Strategy objectives.

Mitigation measures have been identified during the evaluation process to reduce the scale/importance of significant negative effects and also maximise beneficial effects.
6.1 Spatial Objectives of the Core Strategy

Spatial objectives have been set up in the Preferred Options document and have been derived from the identified issues and link directly back to the Spatial Vision for North East Lincolnshire. These objectives provide the link to the policies set out in the Development Plan Documents. It should be recognised that the identified spatial objectives are mutually supportive.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 1 – To secure sustainable patterns of development**

This will include giving priority to re-using previously developed land and buildings within the urban areas of Grimsby and Cleethorpes and Immingham, recognising significant regeneration opportunities; and reducing the overall need to travel; limiting exposure to flood risk; protecting the Borough’s environmental assets.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 2 - To promote urban regeneration that addresses the loss of urban population and establishes sustainable and safe communities**

This will deliver sustainable patterns of mixed use development that recognises environmental hazards and issues of community safety.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 3 – To deliver high quality developments based on the principles of good, sustainable and inclusive design**

This will secure the rise in quality thresholds, promote sustainable construction practices including energy efficiency; address crime issues and deliver the overall renaissance vision.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 4 - To provide for the housing needs of the borough**

This will include ensuring that there are a sufficient number of dwellings to meet identified requirements set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy; recognising regeneration, redevelopment and new development as the mechanisms to provide an appropriate mix of types, sizes and tenures to meet the needs of all members of the community.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 5 - To provide high quality affordable housing for those in housing need**

This will be sought through the promotion of inclusive communities addressing identified Borough needs.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 6 - To develop and grow the local economy**

This will involve building on key local cluster activities, providing sites and buildings to meet identified needs and facilitating regeneration initiatives that capture local economic benefits and nurture a culture of innovation and growth.

**SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 7 - To develop improve and enhance vital and viable town centres**

This will involve focusing retail development on the town centres of Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham to strengthen their retail offer, and securing high quality developments.
SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 8 - To establish and maintain a network of accessible good quality open spaces, sport, and recreation facilities
This will promote health and well-being, social inclusion and community cohesion; and establish a network of green spaces across the Borough, based upon local standards.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 9 - To promote rural diversification
This will be sought through investment and development and extends services that directly benefit the rural economy, provides for identified local need and maintains or enhances the environment.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 10 – To ensure the satisfactory provision of social and cultural facilities
This will secure the social and physical infrastructure necessary to improve the health, education, life-long learning and well-being of all sectors of the community.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 11 - To protect and enhance the quality of the natural and historic environment across the borough
This will be achieved through securing good sustainable design that addresses environmental issues, including flood risk; and safeguards important designated environmental, historic or archaeological sites.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 12 - To increase the attraction of the borough as a tourist destination
This will be achieved through the enhancement of existing, and provision of new tourist facilities and attractions that are respectful of the environment; recognising the value of the landscape as an attraction in its own right.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 13 - To develop sustainable and environmental aware approaches to waste management and disposal, and mineral extraction and handling
This will be achieved through adopting approaches consistent with national and regional strategies.

SPATIAL OBJECTIVE 14 - To promote accessible patterns of development that will reduce the overall need to travel and support increased use of public transport, cycling and walking
This will be achieved by implementing transport facilities and promoting viable choices of transport modes that allow sustainable movement patterns. This includes establishing new sustainable transport corridors to serve key development corridors.

6.1.1 Compatibility testing between spatial and sustainability objectives
In preparation for the development of the Core Strategy policies, a set of Core Strategy objectives was developed. Each of these 14 objectives was evaluated in terms of its compatibility with each of the 22 SA objectives. Overall, the majority of the Core Strategy objectives were either broadly compatible or had no effect on the SA objectives. No potential conflicts were identified, although the nature of the
implementation measures will play a key role in determining the performance of the Core Strategy against the SA objectives.

The SA objectives are particularly dependent on the nature of implementation of the housing, employment and transport objectives. This is largely related to the new infrastructure required by new developments and facilities and the potential for negative environmental effects. The Core Strategy objectives are most compatible with the social and economic SA objectives. Those SA objectives that have most dependence on the nature of the implementation measures are those relating to flooding, pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, landscape and heritage.

Some spatial objectives, by themselves, may have some negative impact on the social, economic and environmental objectives. However, most of these negative impacts are offset by other spatial objectives, such as sustainable patterns of development (SO1), sustainable design policies (SO3), good access to public transport (SO14) and proper waste management practices (SO13).

SO4 and SO5 – These spatial objectives may be in conflict with the environmental objectives EN2 to EN9. However, sustainable patterns of development (SO1), sustainable design policies (SO3), sustainable transport (SO14) and good accessibility (SO7) will help to mitigate against the possible problems.

SO6 – Businesses and employment opportunities need to have good access to public transport (SO14) while following sustainable patterns of development and design (SO1 and SO3).

SO7 – Town centres are well served by public transport – so will help to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the impact of climate change. Good sustainable and inclusive design (SO3) and proper waste management (SO13) offset the negative environmental impacts.

SO9 – Rural areas are generally not very accessible with public transport. The negative impacts of rural development will be offset through sustainable patterns of development (SO1), sustainable design policies (SO3), good access to public transport (SO14) and proper waste management practices (SO13).

SO10 – Enhanced social and cultural facilities, such as leisure centres and educational establishments may increase greenhouse gas emissions, waste or energy use. However, sustainable patterns of development (SO1), sustainable design policies (SO3), good access to public transport (SO14) and proper waste management practices (SO13) help to offset the negative impacts of this spatial objective.

SO12 – Promoting tourism will attract investment and development to the borough. However, it will increase the number of vehicles into the area. Measures need to be in place to introduce sustainable transport modes such as Park and Ride facilities and better public transport (SO14). The second Local Transport Plan of the Council mentions use of Park and Ride facilities into the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes.
Table 8: Compatibility matrix between spatial objectives and sustainability objectives

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6.2 Preferred Options in the Core Strategy

6.2.1 KP1 – Spatial Strategy

The primary focus for regeneration and growth in North East Lincolnshire will be:

- Town Centres (Grimsby, Cleethorpes, and Immingham)
- Urban Areas
- Principal Service Settlements
- Service Settlements
- Cleethorpes Resort
- Humber Employment Zone

All development will be expected to be consistent with the following principles:

- Support the delivery of urban and rural renaissance across the Borough, developing attractive, safe, high quality places that maximise access opportunities for all.
- The scale of development proposed will be expected to accord with the following settlement hierarchy:
  - Major Urban Centre (Grimsby and Cleethorpes) - the focus for significant development.
  - Principal Service Centre (Immingham)- the focus for sufficient development to fulfil its principal service centre role.
  - Local Service Centres (Laceby, Waltham, New Waltham, Humberston, Healing and Stallingborough) - The focus for sufficient development to fulfil their local service centre role. This classification is split into two groups on the basis of the size of the settlements and their ability to support growth.
  - Other Settlements (Habrough, Aylesby, Irby upon Humber, Barnoldby-le-Beck, Beelsby, Hatcliffe, Brigsley, Ashby-cum-Fenby, East Ravendale and Wold Newton) – The focus for limited development that meets local village needs for housing and economic diversification.
  - Great Coates is recognised as an individual settlement although it has no physical separation form the Grimsby urban centre; and will be considered in this context.
- Development proposals will adopt a sequential approach in meeting development needs, starting with the re-use of available, viable, and suitable, previously developed land and buildings thereby minimising the need for Greenfield development and the need to travel
- Safeguard existing services, community and infrastructure provision; establish future provision in new developments and safeguard future programmed infrastructure improvements.
Focus major retail opportunities on town centres, recognising Grimsby (Top Town) as the sub-regional centre

Focus industrial, commercial and economic growth, including targeted infrastructure investment that maximises on the sub-regional and locally recognised business strengths and clusters, including the needs of tourism, and support for new business development

Maintain the vitality and viability of rural settlements providing for development that meets local needs and supports local services

Minimise the risk of flooding by controlling the nature, location, layout and design of development; and through appropriate sea defences as part of a comprehensive estuary management strategy

Maintain the character and appearance of individual settlements and prevent their coalescence

Recognises the impact of environmental issues and concerns

6.2.2 KP2 – Sustainability Development Principles

The Council will work to ensure all new development is achieved in ways which:

- Provide high quality sustainable development through good and inclusive design that promotes and contributes to a sense of place
- Protect, and enhance wherever possible, the natural and historic environment
- Make the best use of previously developed land and buildings, including opportunities for mixed use development
- Promotes the development of facilities to sustain and strengthen the social fabric of communities
- Deliver safe, healthy, accessible and attractive place to live, work and visit Do not place a damaging burden on existing services and infrastructure
- Promote improved and well connected transportation links and services
- Promote the best use of resources and reduce reliance upon energy sources that are not renewable
- Promote local sustainable waste management, and promotes efficient use of resources
- Recognises and addresses flood risk
- Recognise the need for appropriate buffers to safeguard local amenities and sensitive habitats

6.2.3 KP3 – Implementation

To facilitate the delivery of the Council’s strategic objectives the Council will:

- Prepare Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents. This will include supplementary guidance relating to:
  - Design principles
  - Sustainable development
Mitigating flood risk, and
Planning contributions

As future Development Plan Documents are developed consideration will be given to the review of existing supplementary planning guidance.

- Prepare Area Action Plans (to a future agreed timescale) relating to:
  - Grimsby Town Centre
  - Cleethorpes Resort Area
  - Freeman Street/Albion Street
  - Grimsby Fish Docks

Future consideration will be given to the need for additional Area Action Plans, particularly relating to the Urban Renaissance Programme.

- Prepare Development Briefs where individual site circumstances warrant them.
- Require developers, in appropriate circumstances, to enter into planning obligations to carry out works or contribute towards the provision of infrastructure and support growing communities, including, transport, service and public realm enhancements; required as a consequence of the development.
- Consider the release of Council land, where necessary in partnership with the private sector to bring forward sites to achieve the Council’s Spatial Objectives.
- Consider the use of compulsory purchase powers in appropriate circumstances in order to assemble land it enable key development or infrastructure improvements to proceed.
- Explore partnership working arrangements and community empowerment opportunities
- Pursue strategies and initiatives that deliver the Council’s corporate objectives and the spatial objectives of the Local Development Framework.
- Encourage the return of derelict and contaminated land to beneficial use, where suitable measures to resolve contamination issues can and have been addressed

### 6.2.4 CP1 – Strategic Employment Zones

Provision will be made for Employment Generating Development (excluding town centre and tourism uses identified in PPS6) in the following strategic locations:

- Humber Employment Zone - Stretching between, and inclusive of the commercial port areas of Grimsby and Immingham ports (including nationally significant estuary land).
- Humberston/New Waltham - Wilton Road Industrial Estate and Hewitt’s Circus Business Park.

In addition to these identified strategic locations sites for incubator, small and medium size enterprises will be identified within urban areas and in principle
service settlements in the Housing/Employment Development Plan Document. Consideration will be given to identifying other opportunities in local service centres.

Future Allocations to be set out in the Employment and Housing DPD will be made commensurate with the recommendations set out in the Council's Employment Land Study subject to consideration of other development plan policies and other material considerations.

Development will be permitted where proposals would:

- Have a layout, access, parking and integrated landscaping that are appropriate to the site and its surroundings and secure any necessary improvements;
- Be of a scale and design that respects the character, appearance and environment of the site and surroundings;
- Be readily accessible by means of transport providing an alternative to the car, or includes appropriate new sustainable transport measures;
- Incorporates energy efficiency and waste management measures and appropriate flood mitigation measures.
- Recognises, and addresses the impact of environmental issues and concerns.

Exceptionally, mayor office development will be permitted where an out of centre location has been justified. These sites will be identified in the Allocation Development Plan Document where justification is identified in the Employment Land Review.

6.2.5 CP2 – Town Centre and Retail Development

New major retail development and other key town centre uses likely to attract a lot of people will be required to adopt a sequential approach to site location. The sequence shall be:

1. First, locations in Grimsby sub-regional town centre (Top Town), Cleethorpes and Immingham town centres; and then
2. Edge of centre locations, accessible by a choice of means of transport
3. Out of centre locations, with preference given to sites which are or will be well serviced by a choice of means of transport and which are close to the centre and have a high likelihood of forming links with the centre

Developers will be required to demonstrate need for a main town centre use which would be in an edge of centre, or out of centre location.

In addition further retail opportunities are provided within Freeman Street District Centre and numerous local centres across the urban area.

Developments which complement evening and night-time uses which appeal to a wide range of social groups will be encouraged and supported.

Developments should respect the scale, nature and character and catchment of the centre in which development is proposed. Developments will be expected to contribute to measures to upgrade the environment and the attractiveness and accessibility of the centre.
Opportunities for residential accommodation should be included as part of an integrated development wherever possible.

Out of Town Shopping Areas including at Hewitt's Circus New Waltham and Laceby Road Grimsby are not identified as growth areas. Development on these sites will be limited to consolidation and diversification within the boundaries of existing retail development.

Opportunities to enhance existing market provision, and where appropriate introduce new facilities will be supported where provision is made to ensure they are, and will remain attractive.

6.2.6 CP3– Housing Provision

Provision is made for the development of homes and associated infrastructure in the Borough equating to at least, an average annual net rate of 400 homes within the period 2004-2011; and an average annual net rate of 420 homes within the period 2011-2016, in conformity with the requirement set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

This includes:

A target of at least 50% of homes to be built on previously developed land over the period 2004-2021.

Priority will be given to locating new development within the main urban area followed by the principal service settlement followed by other local service settlements in a manner consistent with Policy KP1.

The first phase allocation 2004-2011 will review existing allocations and areas of identified urban potential. Consideration will be given to the release of land previously allocated, or in use for non-housing uses, including employment land, in the Housing/ Employment Development Plan Document, for housing or mixed-use development.

The second phase allocation will focus on opportunities to remodel urban areas supporting urban renaissance and bringing forward transformational opportunities realising the concept of mixed uses.

Limited provision is made for small scale development in or adjacent to other villages to meet identified local needs, where the development is of a scale and design that respect the character of the settlement and satisfies normal development control requirements.

Beyond this provision permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances where development would result in substantial environmental enhancement compatible with the location, or where there is an identified agricultural justification.

Development proposals should respect the need to promote or maintain a mix of housing types to promote mixed and inclusive communities. This is of particular concern in rural settlements.

On a Sub-regional Basis additional provision to address the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers will be made adopting a criteria based approach to be set out in the Housing and Employment development Plan Document. This will be determined on the basis of a sub-regional assessment of the patterns of need and adequacy of current provision.

The Council will monitor housing delivery, and support the 'plan monitor and manage' approach, by completing housing trajectories. A housing trajectory will be
set out in the Housing and Employment Development Plan Document which will be updated as part of the Annual Monitoring Report.

6.2.7 CP4 - Affordable Housing

Residential development of 15 units and above (or on sites of 0.5ha and above), or in the case of rural areas 5 units and above; will be permitted provided that they include an appropriate contribution to the provision of affordable dwellings to contribute to the needs of people who are not able to compete in the general housing market; including measures to maintain the dwellings availability in perpetuity.

The appropriate contribution will equate to the provision of a percentage of affordable housing. This will equate to 30% of the total number of dwellings to be constructed, the mix of dwellings will be determined on the basis of identified local housing need, on a borough wide basis. The appropriate contribution and further guidance of delivery mechanisms will be set out in an accompanying Supplementary Planning Document, utilising information drawn from the Council's Housing Needs and market Assessment.

Consideration will be given to pursuing the urban renaissance vision including the implications of providing the affordable housing on site or whether an appropriate off site contribution would better meet the identified local housing need, either through new build or refurbishment of existing housing.

Exceptionally, over and above the housing requirement set out in policy CP3 Housing Provision, small scale provision for affordable housing in the rural area (identified in the HNMA) will be made where justified by survey, the format analysis and geographical extent of the survey having been agreed with the local planning authority. Development would be expected to accord with the criteria set out in policy CP12 Rural Development.

6.2.8 CP5 – Transport and Accessibility

Planning permission will be granted to development that incorporates acceptable measures to; or schemes that:

- Widen the choice of transport options;
- Promote increased accessibility for all;
- Supports Urban Renaissance by reducing the impacts of traffic, including severance, improving living conditions and the public realm, and protecting public safety and the environment;
- Improve existing infrastructure and transport options, including road, rail, and pedestrian and cycle facilities.

Sites for identified strategic transportation improvements to facilitate economic regeneration, or improve the quality of the urban environment and widen travel choice will be safeguarded.

New infrastructure provision will be required to consider the protection of natural habitats; and avoid increasing, and where possible seek to reduce, the fragmentation and isolation of natural habitats.
6.2.9  CP6 – Design Quality

Planning permission will be granted for developments that:

- Are appropriate to their context including natural and built environments; integrate with existing urban or rural form, and reflect local distinctiveness;
- Ensure the scale, density, massing and height of the development are designed in relation to neighbouring buildings and the general locality;
- Take opportunities to use resources more efficiently;
- Take opportunities for improving the character, quality and attractiveness of an area or the way it functions, not just in the short term but over the lifetime of the development;
- Create well mixed, adaptable and integrated development, which avoids segregation, provides well planned areas of public space that function well and add to the overall quality and sense of place, and which are attractive;
- Take opportunities to incorporate elements of public art;
- Make clear distinctions between areas of public and private space, particularly addressing issues of actual or perceived opportunities for crime;
- Provide access by way of routes and spaces that address the accessibility needs of all in a manner that is easy to understand without unsatisfactory dominance by vehicular traffic.

6.2.10  CP7 – Flood Risk

Sites will be identified and planning permission will be granted to development that adopts a risk based approach to the possibility of flooding. Such an approach will require due regard to be paid to the Humber Estuary Shoreline Management Plan, and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Development proposals within identified floodplains will be expected to:

- Have undertaken and submitted a flood risk assessment (addressing the requirements set out in PPS25 annex E) when submitting a planning application;
- Have regard to the availability of, or requirement for an appropriate standard of flood defence including where appropriate measures to secure their implementation and retention;
- Incorporate appropriate flood mitigation and/or flood warning measures.
- Incorporate sustainable systems, and where necessary flood resilience measures.

6.2.11  CP8 - Community Infrastructure

Development will be supported which ensures a satisfactory provision of community facilities for residents and in appropriate circumstances visitors to the Borough.

This will be achieved by;
- Retaining community facilities and services that play an important role in the social infrastructure of the area;
- Providing for health, social care and community facilities identified in strategic development plans or identified through community empowerment initiatives;
- Supporting improvements to existing, and provision of new education facilities to promote higher educational attainment and provide improved opportunities for skills and life long learning, including extended school provision;
- Ensuring that new and/or improved services and facilities are identified in site allocations and planned and integrated in new development in locations that are accessible by good public transport, and accessible for all users;
- Recognising the opportunities to promote extended school use through the development of ancillary facilities;
- Support the establishment of a university campus.

6.2.12 CP9 - Sport, Recreation and Open Space

Recognising the importance of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities to the health and well-being of the residents of, and visitors to the Borough the Council will:

- Safeguard existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, and allotments, except where an assessment has been undertaken that clearly identifies the open space or the buildings and land to be surplus to requirements; or the facilities to be lost would be replaced by provision of replacement facilities of at least equivalent size, usefulness, attractiveness and quality in a suitable location.
- Seek to grasp opportunities to address identified deficits in the type and diversity of open space or sports and recreation facilities or allotment provision. Such measures will include:
  - Improving the accessibility to, and accessibility of facilities and land;
  - Improving management of facilities and land;
  - Adding to or enhancing the range and quality of existing facilities;
  - Adopting measures to design out crime and anti-social behaviour;
  - Promoting social inclusion;
  - Ensuring compatibility with adjoining uses.
  - Enhancing bio-diversity interests.
- Consideration will also be given to the relocation of existing provision in order to meet local needs more effectively or make better overall recreational use of land.
- Seek increased provision of open spaces and local sports and recreation facilities, or the enhancement of existing facilities, where development increases local needs or where the quantity and quality of provision is inadequate or under threat. Delivery will be sought through negotiated Section 106 Agreements. (Assessment will include reference to the local standards identified in the NEL Playing Pitch Strategy).
6.2.13 CP10 - Environment

Development proposals will be expected to safeguard and enhance the natural and built assets of the Borough. This will be achieved by;

- Safeguarding and enhancing the historic environment;
- Safeguarding and enhancing nature and conservation sites of international, national and identified local importance;
- Promoting reclamation and re-use of derelict and or contaminated land to beneficial use;
- Supporting schemes and initiatives seeking to deliver the Freshney Forest concept; promoting a network of natural habitats, incorporating footpath and bridleways corridors;
- Protecting water resources from threats to the quality and or quantity of groundwaters or surface waters; including maintenance of ‘blue flag’ status for Cleethorpes Beach;
- Supporting measures for water conservation and recycling;
- Supporting and safeguarding flood protection and coastal defences that accord with options identified in the Humber Shoreline Management Plan;
- Minimising pollution arising from the release of smoke, fumes, gases, dust, steam, smell, light, intrusion, or noise; recognising the need for buffers in appropriate circumstances;
- Implementation of energy efficient measures, including opportunities for small scale renewable energy schemes.

Renewable Energy Developments will be supported where the environmental, economic and social impacts of the proposal, including any off site works including road and transmission lines; can be addressed successfully. Such developments are not expected to accord with the sequential approach to development set out in Policy KP1.

6.2.14 CP11 - Tourism

Planning Applications for tourism related proposals will be granted planning permission where they support the following principles;

- Develop new facilities to meet changing customer needs, comparable with their setting, including an adequate supply and range of tourist accommodation to meet varying needs and appropriate visitor attractions that;
- Focuses on the Cleethorpes Resort, or;
- Recognise the future tourism potential of Grimsby Town Centre, and Grimsby Docks, as part of a long term comprehensive redevelopment scheme, or;
- Promotes sensitive green tourism associated with the natural assets of the Humber Estuary and Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- Recognise the limited capacity of sensitive landscapes and local infrastructure;
Endorse quality and attractiveness to promote an urban and rural renaissance;

Develop in harmony with natural assets and maintain a balance between the needs of visitors and host communities;

Promote accessibility for all;

Maintain the high standard of water quality and attraction of Cleethorpes Beach.

6.2.15 CP12 - Rural Development

Development in the countryside that meets local social and economic needs will be supported where:

- it is essential to the needs of local communities, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, mineral extraction, waste disposal or other identified needs which require a countryside location, and cannot be accommodated within an identified settlement;

Development should:

- Be appropriate to the context including natural and built environments; integrate with existing buildings, and reflect local distinctiveness and be focused in or near existing settlements;

- Ensure the scale, density, massing and height of the development are designed in relation to neighbouring buildings and the general locality;

- Take opportunities for improving the character, quality and attractiveness of an area or the way it functions, not just in the short term but over the lifetime of the development;

- Support the efficient use of resources;

- Make appropriate re-use of rural buildings;

- Recognise the impact of environmental issues and concerns.

Development that would result in the loss of rural community facilities or services will be expected to provide evidence that the use of the site or building for community use would be unsuitable, unviable, or not achievable within a reasonable timeframe.

6.2.16 CP13 - Waste Management

The strategy for the management and disposal of waste in North East Lincolnshire shall within the context of European, National and Regional policy be to:

- Promote waste minimisation, recycling (as close to service of use as is practicable) and re-use to achieve identified targets;

- Provide for a satisfactory range of waste handling, management and disposal facilities, including the allocation of sites to support the development of waste management facilities to compliment existing sustainable waste facilities, ensuring self sufficiency at the lowest practicable level for the waste stream;

- Promote sustainable transport options and minimise overall transportation requirements;
- Require major development proposals to identify and minimise waste
generated, and address the sustainable management of waste as an integral
element of the development.

6.2.17 CP14 - Minerals

Applications for mineral extraction will be considered in relation to the following:

- Whether the reserve is of a quality and quantity to justify extraction;
- Whether adequate proposals are made to address visual and amenity impacts;

Whether the proposed order and method of working and overall programme for extraction are satisfactory;

- Whether the proposals and programme for restoration are accompanied by satisfactory proposals for beneficial aftercare and management;
- Whether the local transport facilities are adequate to move the mineral to market.

Mineral deposits which are or may become of economic importance will be safeguarded from surface development that would effect their extraction. Facilities and associated sites needed for the sustainable transportation of minerals will also be safeguarded.

6.3 Summary of assessment findings

The detailed appraisal of the Preferred Options outlined in Table 9 predicts the effects of preferred options in social, environmental and economic terms. Details of the assessments for each development principle are provided in Appendix D. A summary of the assessment findings is presented after Table 9.
The preferred options can be strengthened with reference to the following:

- **The Core Strategy needs to reflect appropriately on the developments in the flood plain.** The Humber Port development and the Humber Employment Zone include the nationally significant estuary landing the flood plains of the Humber estuary. There may be a need to keep a careful watch on these developments. Strategic flood risk assessment and the sequential approach in PPS25 should inform the type of development permitted.

- **Maintaining water quality in controlled waters and tackle the impacts of climate change through incorporation of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in all new developments.**

- **Achieve carbon neutral status for new developments through support for renewable energy proposals including on-site small scale renewables such as CHP, solar panels, etc.**

- **Creating new and replacement habitats for those lost to development.**

- **Implementation of resource efficiency measures, particularly water.** More development may lead to a net increase in water consumption and localised water quality issues. Developments should not result in any further abstraction of water or strain on aquifers.

- **Good and inclusive design of new developments through EcoHomes ‘good’ or ‘very good’ standards and BREEAM toolkit for more sustainable homes in the policy.** Housing quality needs to follow Code for Sustainable Homes. The environmental design of homes can be improved to mitigate the effects of...
climate change so that no air-conditioning is required as summers become hotter.

- Microtechnologies in new builds such as water capture, soakaways, grey water use, etc.
- Reduce consumption of materials and resources and generation of waste. The demolition waste may be reused in new construction.
- Increase in recycling to counter the increased tonnage in waste
- Transport hierarchy that seeks to promote public transport, walking and cycling in advance of facilitating private transportation, particularly in the most accessible locations.
- Control of shipping discharges and other activities that could lead to pollution incidents.
- Improvements set out in the Local Transport Plan such as Park and Ride facilities, Freshney Forest cycling and bridleway corridors, etc.
- Promotion of greener fuels in transport.
- More support for providing training and skills to meet employment demands. This would result in better quality highly skilled jobs for the local people,
- Planning for staff recreational green spaces within industrial sites to help their health and wellbeing.
- Aesthetics and biodiversity improved through green roofs, soft borders such as green corridors (rather than a fence or wall) around new developments, parking and roads.
- Flood risk as one of the determining factors in the distribution and location of housing.
- Provision of sustainable transport infrastructure in advance of housing development
- Parking provisions revised (downwards) for residential areas.
- Urban flooding due to increased run off, river swelling, during storms and the ability of the drainage systems to cope, besides tidal flooding.
- Protection of rural landscapes, historic and archaeological sites, internationally important habitats and biodiversity.
- Rural developments to be focused in the most accessible locations and in other cases, made accessible through sustainable transport
- Increase in source distance of run-off (salt, rubber, dust, oil) from roads and other hard surfaces to avoid pollution of periphery and seepage to ground water.
- Promotion of recycling to reduce the consumption of non-renewable mineral resources.
6.4 **Assessment of cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects**

As required by the SEA Regulations, cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects have also been identified and evaluated during the assessment. An explanation of these is as follows:

- **Indirect effects** are effects that are not a direct result of the plan, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway.

- **Cumulative effects** arise where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect; or where several individual effects of the plan have a combined effect.

- **Synergistic effects** interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

Cumulative effects can occur from the following situations:

- Combined effects of a plan with effects of another plan, affecting the same receptor. For example, proposals from land use and transport plans could affect a nature reserve;

- Interaction of policies within a plan on the same receptor. For example, a policy to encourage development which promote jobs and a housing policy to provide more housing to meet the authority’s target could result in a cumulative loss of open space;

- Interaction of effects from proposals within a plan affecting the same receptor. For example, proposals to build roads, commercial premises and housing in a particular area within a short period of time could result in cumulative noise, dust and visual effects on the residents nearby.

As part of Stage A, potential cumulative effects of the Core Strategy were identified from the analysis of plans and programmes and the environmental baseline. This analysis has identified a preliminary set of likely cumulative effects, their receptors and likely causes, as shown in Table 10.

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<th>Causes</th>
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<td>- Use of land for new infrastructure, dwellings and employment uses</td>
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<td>- Areas of local conservation significance</td>
<td>- Increase in population</td>
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<td>- Wildlife habitats and species</td>
<td>- residential and commercial developments</td>
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<td>Degradation in water</td>
<td>- People</td>
<td>- Increased traffic</td>
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<td>Loss of quality built environment</td>
<td>- Listed buildings</td>
<td>Unsympathetic design of new developments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Buildings of architectural/historic/archaeological importance</td>
<td>Increased traffic flows disturbing character of area</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Conservation areas</td>
<td>Use of land for new infrastructure, dwellings and employment uses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in flood risk</td>
<td>- Population</td>
<td>- Associated increase in impermeable surfaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Wildlife habitats and species</td>
<td>Use of land for new infrastructure, dwellings and employment uses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of countryside</td>
<td>- Wildlife habitats and species</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- Agricultural land</td>
<td>Increased physical activity such as walking/cycling from infrastructure improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of soil resources</td>
<td>- High value agricultural land</td>
<td>Improvement in air quality</td>
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<td>Improvement in health</td>
<td>- Population</td>
<td>Improved public transport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase in accessibility to services</td>
<td>- Population</td>
<td>Increased physical activity such as walking/cycling from infrastructure improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased car linkage to services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Provision of new community facilities</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Improved public transport</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Encouraging alternatives to car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced road traffic/congestion</td>
<td>- Population</td>
<td>Increased physical activity such as walking/cycling from infrastructure improvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6.4.1 Beneficial cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects

As Table 10 highlights, many of the Policies of the Core Strategy have the potential to interact positively, bringing a number of beneficial cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects in relation to the SA Objectives. Of these, many of the indirect effects are related to the improvement of the physical environment, and the "knock on" benefits of enhancing the public realm and the image of the area.

### 6.4.2 Adverse cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects

As Table 10 highlights, there is potential for some negative cumulative, secondary and synergistic impacts from the Core Strategy on biodiversity. These relate to
habitat loss and disturbance, highlighting the importance of the mitigation measures.

6.5 **Appropriate Assessment of the Core Strategy**

In the UK, the European Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) has been transposed into national legislation in the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994. Regulation 48 implements the requirements of Article 6.3 of the Directive for “Appropriate Assessment” of a plan or project. Such an assessment is required where a plan or project under consideration is likely to have a significant effect on a Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Area of Conservation (SAC). These European designated sites are known collectively as Natura 2000 sites. The Natura 2000 sites are designed to form an ecologically coherent network of designated sites across the whole of Europe. In such assessments, Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS 9) suggests that consideration should also be given to sites designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. In practice there is often a substantial degree of overlap between the features for which a Ramsar site is designated and the features for which the same site is often designated as a SPA and/or SAC.

An Appropriate Assessment is required where a Local Development Document (LDD) contains proposals that are likely to have a significant effect on a Special Protection Area or Special Area of Conservation. Draft government guidance is now available in DCLG 2006.

The overall area comprising the Humber Estuary cSAC, the Humber Flats Marshes and Coast SPA, the Humber Estuary pSPA and the Humber Estuary proposed Ramsar (pRamsar) site is 120km long and 14km at its widest point (see Appendix 1). It is located both within and immediately adjacent to the North East Lincolnshire boundary and could therefore be affected by proposed development within North East Lincolnshire.

6.5.1 **Appropriate Assessment Findings**

The two impacts of the policies identified within the North East Lincolnshire Appropriate Assessment Screening Document (produced in September 2006) were assessed to determine their potential impacts on the integrity of each Natura 2000 site. The assessment of the effects of an impact on the overall ecological function of each site took into account factors such as the magnitude, extent, reversibility, timing and frequency of each potential impact. The Conservation Objectives established by English Nature (now Natural England) for each site were also considered during the assessment of the impacts on the integrity of each designated site.

It was recommended that commitments are made within the Core Strategy in order to avoid or reduce the impacts that any development may have on the Natura 2000 site. Where a policy leaves potential for there to be significant impacts on a Natura 2000 site, advice has been given as to re-wording and revising such policies so as to avoid any negative impacts of that policy on the integrity of the site. Three issues were identified by the Appropriate Assessment as requiring particular consideration:

- Development of new employment land
- Allocation of new housing areas
Construction of wind farms

If the proposed revisions are made to the Core Strategy policies involving housing and wind farms, it is considered that this should prevent any residual negative impacts from proposed development on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site.

However, even with recommended changes added to relevant policies, it is still considered that there will be conflicts between the promotion of the expansion of employment land and the integrity of the Natura 2000 site. It is therefore recommended that the Council consults with Natural England on whether these recommended changes are sufficient to protect the integrity of the sites from policies involving the development of economic land. If Natural England approves these recommendations, then they must be implemented. However, if Natural England do not approve these recommendations, then a process involving alternatives, justification and compensation will need to be developed with Natural England to ensure that there will be no negative impacts on the Natura 2000 site from the policies within the Core Strategy.
7. MITIGATION

The term ‘mitigation’ encompasses any approach, which is aimed at preventing, reducing or offsetting significant adverse sustainability effects that have been identified. In practice, a range of measures applying one or more of these approaches is likely to be considered in mitigating any significant adverse effects predicted as a result of implementing the Core Strategy. In addition, it is also important to consider measures aimed at enhancing positive effects. All such measures are generally referred to as mitigation measures.

However, the emphasis should, in the first instance, be on proactive avoidance of adverse effects. Only once all alternative options or approaches to avoiding an effect have been examined, should mitigation then examine ways of reducing the scale/importance of the effect.

Mitigation can take a wide range of forms, including:

- Changes to the Core Strategy options, including bringing forward new options to address specific elements that cause adverse effects, or adding or deleting options;
- Refining options in order to improve the likelihood of positive effects and to minimise adverse effects;
- Technical measures (such as setting guidelines) to be applied during the implementation stage;
- Identifying issues to be addressed in project environmental impact assessments for certain projects or classes of projects;
- Proposals for changing other plans and programmes; and
- Contingency arrangements for dealing with possible adverse effects.

Mitigation measures for each Core Policy have been identified in the individual assessments in Appendix D. The following general measures are proposed in order to mitigate the adverse sustainability effects identified in the sustainability assessment:

- Suggested re-wording of some core policies to strengthen identified positive effects or minimise negative effects;
- The effective implementation of other relevant Core Policies within the Core Strategy (including cross-referencing to other Core Policies);
- Reference to forthcoming DPDs, SPDs, design codes and other guidance which will provide a more detailed assessment and identification of mitigation measures;
- Recommendations emanating from the Appropriate Assessment of the Core Strategy.
8. **MONITORING**

The SEA Directive states that ‘member states shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes…in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action’ (Article 10.1). In addition, the Environmental Report (or SA Report) should provide information on a ‘description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring’ (Annex I (i)) (Stage E).

SA monitoring will cover significant social and economic effects as well as significant environmental effects and it involves measuring indicators which will enable the establishment of a causal link between the implementation of the plan and the likely significant effects (both positive and negative) being monitored. In line with the SEA Directive, these significant positive and negative effects should be monitored with the implementation of the North East Lincolnshire Core Strategy.

8.1 **Monitoring framework**

Table 5 to Table 7 identify indicators that can be used for monitoring the impacts of the Core Strategy and the organisation responsible. These may be used for reporting. Although many of the indicators have evolved from those proposed in the SA Framework, a number of new indicators have also been proposed to address consultation responses to the Scoping Report and to cover issues which relate specifically to the significant predicted effects of the Strategy.

The guidance suggests that SA monitoring and reporting activities can be integrated into the regular planning cycle. As part of the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) process, the authority will be required to prepare an AMR as part of its LDF. It is anticipated therefore that elements of the SA monitoring programme will be incorporated into this process.

These indicators may evolve over time based on the results of consultation and the identification of additional data sources (as in some cases, information will be provided by outside bodies). Consultees are invited to suggest any further indicators for the monitoring programs.
9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Core Policies within the North East Lincolnshire Core Strategy generally strive to meet the range of sustainability objectives identified in the SA framework. The Core Policies are considered to offer potentially significant positive effects on environmental, social and economic objectives. The negative effects identified can be minimised through the effective implementation of other Core Policies and through detailed mitigation measures. The extent of the significance of effects and the subsequent mitigation will be assessed in greater detail in the assessment of DPDs and SPDs. Consequently, careful wording of more specific policies could minimise these potential significant effects identified in the assessment of the Core Strategy policies as well as ensuring that there is adequate provision for the protection of the environment.

Recommendations have been made to improve the sustainability performance of the Core Strategy, where appropriate. In some cases, cross-referencing of policies can clarify the application of all Core Policies to specific development proposals. In others, recommendations have been made to improve the protection of the environment and encourage measures (such as carbon neutral developments), which promote non-traditional and exemplar forms of development. It is considered that the proposed recommendations will improve the sustainability performance of the Core Strategy substantially.

The majority of Core Policies perform well against the sustainability objectives. Several policies were identified which could be improved by revising policy wording, reference to some other issues and by adding a clear reference within each policy to other relevant policies within the Core Strategy. Specific recommendations for each policy are given below:

9.1 KP1 - Spatial Strategy

The policy can be strengthened by including the following statement for cross-referencing it with other Core Strategy policies:

- “All developments will be managed in an environmentally sustainable manner by avoiding/minimising or mitigating any adverse impacts on the area’s natural or built environment, biodiversity and the associated infrastructure. This will be done in combination with other policies such as CP5 to CP10 and CP13."

The policy can be strengthened by being more specific on infrastructure provision/improvements such as parks and open spaces for leisure activities, waterfront, educational facilities, public rights of way, etc.

The policy can be strengthened by rewording the statement

- “Safeguard and enhance existing services …”.

9.2 KP2 - Sustainability Development Principles

The policy can be strengthened by rewording the statements in the policy to
“Recognise the need for appropriate buffers to safeguard and enhance local amenities and sensitive habitats”.

“Promote improved and well connected transportation links and services and be located to minimise the need to travel where possible.”

The policy can be strengthened by cross-referencing it with other Core Strategy policies:

“Recognises and addresses flood risk in combination with CP7 (Flood Risk)”.

“Provide high quality sustainable ...sense of place consistent with CP6 (Design Quality)”.

“Promote local sustainable waste management consistent with CP13 (Waste Management)”.

The policy can be strengthened by including a clear statement on promotion and use of renewable energy rather than simply “reduce reliance upon energy sources that are non-renewable”.

“Promote best/efficient use of resources” appears in two statements as part of other statements. The policy may include an independent clear statement on use of resources as the level of proposed development and resultant consumption of natural resources may cause significant negative effects. There is a need to reduce consumption of materials and resources and generation of waste. The demolition waste may be reused in new construction. Also, more development may lead to a net increase in water consumption and localised water quality issues. There should be no net increase in the use of water as it will put an increased pressure on the aquifers.

The statement on “good and inclusive design” can be strengthened by mentioning EcoHomes and BREEAM toolkit for more sustainable homes in the. Housing quality needs to follow Code for Sustainable Homes. The environmental design of homes can be improved to mitigate the effects of climate change so that no air-conditioning is required as summers become hotter.

9.3 **KP3 - Implementation**

The policy can be strengthened by cross-referencing it with other Core Strategy policies:

“Require developers, in...of the development consistent with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility), CP8 (Community Infrastructure), CP9 (Sport, Recreation and Open Spaces) and CP13 (Waste Management)”.

9.4 **CP1 - Employment Generating Development**

The Core Strategy needs to reflect appropriately on the developments in the flood plain. The Humber Port development and the Humber Employment Zone include the nationally significant estuary landing the flood plains of the Humber estuary.
There may be a need to keep a careful watch on these developments. Strategic flood risk assessment and the sequential approach in PPS25 should inform the type of development permitted. Appropriate cross-reference needs to be made to CP7 (Flood Risk).

The policy can be strengthened by replacing the sweeping statement “Recognises and addresses the impacts of environmental issues and concerns” and the statement “Be of a scale…and surroundings” with the following statement:

“All developments will be managed in an environmentally sustainable manner by avoiding/minimising or mitigating any adverse impacts on the area’s natural or built environment, biodiversity and the associated infrastructure in a manner consistent with Policy KP2.”

The policy can be strengthened by cross-referencing it with other Core Strategy policies:

- “Be readily accessible by means…transport measures in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility)”.
- “Incorporates energy efficiency…mitigation measures in combination with CP7 (Flood Risk) and CP13 (Waste Management)”.
- “Have a layout, access…necessary improvements in combination with CP6 (Design Quality)”.

There needs to be support in the policy for providing training for local people to meet employment demands.

The policy may be strengthened by inclusion of planning for staff recreational green spaces within industrial sites which would help their health and wellbeing.

The policy can be strengthened by inclusion of a statement on the need for reduction in the consumption of materials, resources including water and reuse of demolition waste.

**9.5 CP2 - Town Centre and Retail Development**

The policy can be strengthened by adding a statement for the need for developments to be designed in accordance with the principles of energy efficiency, flood risk and sustainable waste management, potentially through cross-reference to CP6 (Design Quality), CP7 (Flood Risk) and CP13 (Waste Management).

The following statements may be reworded to:

- “Developments will be expected to contribute to measures to upgrade the natural and built environment and the attractiveness and accessibility of the centre in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility), CP6 (Design Quality), CP9 (Sport, Recreation and Open Spaces) and CP10 (Environment)”.
- “Developments which complement evening…and supported while incorporating appropriate design measures such as lighting and CCTV to reduce crime”.

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89(98)
9.6 **CP3 - Housing Provision**

The policy may be strengthened by cross-referencing with other relevant policies where appropriate, specifically KP2 (Sustainable Development Principles), CP4 (Affordable Housing), CP5 (Transport and Accessibility), CP6 (Design Quality), CP7 (Flood Risk), CP9 (Sport, Recreation and Open Spaces), CP10 (Environment), CP12 (Rural Development) and CP13 (Waste Management).

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:

- Flood risk as one of the determining factors in the distribution and location of housing with cross-reference to CP7 (Flood Risk).
- Provision of sustainable transport infrastructure in advance of housing development with cross-reference to CP5 (Transport and Accessibility).
- Protection and enhancement of open spaces in new developments with cross reference to CP9 (Sport, Recreation and Open Spaces).
- Implementation of energy efficiency, renewable energy, resource efficiency measures especially water for new housing with cross-reference to KP2 (Sustainable Development Principles and CP6 (Design Quality).
- New housing developments should interact positively with natural environment and biodiversity with a cross-reference to CP10 (Environment). Provision should be made so that in case some habitats are lost to housing, new ones should be created to replace them.
- Incorporation of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS), provision of water reuse and increase in recycling to counter the increased tonnage in waste with cross-reference of CP13 (Waste Management).

The following statements may be reworded to:

- **“Limited provision is made …character of the settlement and historic environment and satisfies normal development control requirements in a manner consistent with CP12 (Rural Development)”**.

9.7 **CP4 - Affordable Housing**

The policy may be strengthened by adding the statement – “New housing will be subject to all policies relevant to policy CP3 (Housing)”.

9.8 **CP5 - Transport and Accessibility**

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:

- The transport hierarchy which seeks to promote public transport, walking and cycling in advance of facilitating private transportation, particularly in the most accessible locations.
- Control of shipping discharges and other activities that could lead to pollution incidents.
• Improvements set out in the Local Transport Plan such as Park and Ride facilities.
• Management of the waste generated through the additional transport infrastructure and a better collection system for run-off in combination with CP13 (Waste Management).
• Promotion of greener fuels in transport.

The following statements may be reworded to:
• “Promote increased accessibility and reduce the need to travel for all”.
• “New infrastructure provision…protection of natural habitats in combination with CP10 (Environment); and avoid …”.
• “Supports urban renaissance…the public realm by bordering parking and roads with mixed trees and hedgerows, and protecting…”

9.9 CP6 - Design Quality

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:
• Housing quality and design needs to follow Code for Sustainable Homes, meet EcoHomes ‘Good’ standards and use of BREEAM toolkit for more sustainable homes. The environmental design of homes can be improved to mitigate the effects of climate change so that no air-conditioning is required as summers become hotter.
• Design codes should include specific guidance for the reuse of previously developed land/buildings and demolition waste in new developments with cross-reference to CP13 (Waste Management).
• Support for tried, newer and better technologies such as Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to tackle climate change.
• Carbon neutral status for new developments with implementation of energy efficiency (including on-site renewables), renewable energy generation, resource efficiency measures especially water with cross-reference to KP2 (Sustainable Development Principles).
• Aesthetics and biodiversity may be improved through green roofs, soft borders such as green corridors (rather than a fence or wall) around new developments, parking and roads.
• Parking provisions may be revised (downwards) for residential areas.

The following statements may be reworded to:
• “Make clear distinctions …opportunities for crime through measures for designing out crime”.
• “Are appropriate in their context while preserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment in combination with CP10 (Environment)”.

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LDF Core Strategy SEA
“Take opportunities to use resources more efficiently with no increase in water abstraction”.

“Provide access by way of routes...vehicular traffic in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility)”.

9.10 CP7 - Flood Risk

The policy seeks to identify those developments that may be permitted in floodplains. Humber Port development and Humber Employment Zone are located in the nationally significant estuary land in the flood plains of the Humber estuary. The policy expects proposed developments to have undertaken and submitted a flood risk assessment (set out in PPS25). A careful watch needs to be kept on these developments.

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:

- New developments to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to tackle climate change and its associated increased risk of flooding.
- Urban flooding due to increased run off, river swelling, during storms and the ability of the drainage systems to cope, besides tidal flooding.
- Protection of rural landscapes, historic and archaeological sites, internationally important habitats and biodiversity in flood risk areas.

The following statement may be reworded to:

- Have regard to the availability of...flood defence...secure their implementation, retention and upgradation”.

9.11 CP8 - Community Infrastructure

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:

- Seek developer contributions towards necessary improvements or additional provision of facilities in accordance with KP3 (Implementation).
- All provisions and improvements will be appropriate in their context including natural and built environment in combination with CP6 (Design Quality) and CP10 (Environment) and CP13 (Waste Management).

To strengthen the policy, the following statement may be reworded to:

- “Ensuring that new/improved...accessible for all users in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility)”.

9.12 CP9 - Sport, Recreation and Open Space

To strengthen the policy, the following statements may be reworded to:
“Safeguard and enhance existing open spaces,...suitable locations”.
“Improving the accessibility...and land in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility)”.
“Improving management of facilities and land in combination with CP6 (Design Quality) and CP13 (Waste Management)”.
“Enhancing biodiversity interests in accordance with CP10 (Environment)”.

9.13 CP10 - Environment
The policy can be strengthened by reference to:
- Creating new and replacement habitats for those lost to development.

To strengthen the policy, the following statements may be reworded to:
- “Safeguarding and enhancing the archaeological and historic environment”.
- “Implementation of energy efficient measures with new developments meeting the Code for Sustainable Homes, including opportunities for on-site and other small scale renewable energy schemes in combination with KP2 (Sustainable Development Principles) and CP6 (Design Quality)”.
- “Supporting schemes...Freshney Forest concept, soft green boundaries (like hedges rather than walls and fences), promoting a network of natural habitats, incorporating footpath and bridleway corridors in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility)”.
- “Protecting and enhancing water resources...Cleethorpes Beach”.

9.14 CP11 - Tourism
The policy may be strengthened by cross-referencing with other policies. The following statements may be reworded to:
- “Develop new facilities...with their setting in accordance with KP2 (Sustainable Development Principles), CP6 (Design Quality), CP7 (Flood Risk), CP10 (Environment) and CP13 (Waste Management), including an adequate...”
- “Promote accessibility for all in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility) and the Council's Local Transport Plan”.

9.15 CP12 - Rural Development
The policy may be strengthened by cross-referencing with other policies. The following statements may be reworded to:
- “Development in the countryside...will be supported in accordance with other relevant policies, where...”
“Be appropriate to the context…environment, while protecting biodiversity and be in accordance with CP7 (Flood Risk) and CP10 (Environment)”.  

“Ensure the scale, massing…general locality in combination with CP6 (Design Quality)”.  

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:  
- Rural developments will be focused in the most accessible locations and in other cases, made accessible through sustainable transport in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility).

9.16 **CP13 - Waste Management**

The policy may be strengthened by adding the following text to the policy:  
- “Development of new waste management facilities will be permitted subject to other relevant plan policies”.

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:  
- Microtechnologies in new builds such as water capture, soakaways, grey water use, etc.  
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in all new developments.  
- Minimisation of waste from new developments, including reuse of waste from demolition and construction activities.  
- Increase in source distance of run-off (salt, rubber, dust, oil) from roads and other hard surfaces to avoid pollution of periphery and seepage to ground water.  
- Increase in percentage of waste reused and recycled to counter the increase in waste tonnage.  
- Creation of replacement habitats for those lost to waste management facilities in combination with CP10 (Environment).

To strengthen the policy, the following statement may be reworded to:  
- “Promote sustainable transport options in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility) and minimise…”

9.17 **CP14 - Minerals**

The policy can be strengthened by reference to:  
- Promotion of recycling to reduce the consumption of non-renewable mineral resources.

To strengthen the policy, the following statement may be reworded to:
“Whether the proposals and programme for...and management in combination with CP10 (Environment).”

“Whether the local transport...to market in combination with CP5 (Transport and Accessibility).”
## 10. ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AONB</td>
<td>Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</td>
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<td>BAP</td>
<td>Biodiversity Action Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>BREEAM</td>
<td>Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method</td>
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<td>CHP</td>
<td>Combined Heat and Power</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCLG</td>
<td>Department of Communities and Local Government (formerly, ODPM)</td>
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<td>DPD</td>
<td>Development Plan Document</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIA</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Assessment</td>
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<td>GHG</td>
<td>Greenhouse gases</td>
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<td>KSI</td>
<td>Killed or seriously injured</td>
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<td>LDD</td>
<td>Local Development Document</td>
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<td>Local Development Framework</td>
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<td>Local Biodiversity Action Plan</td>
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<td>NELC</td>
<td>North East Lincolnshire Council</td>
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<td>NeSS</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Statistics</td>
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<td>NOMIS</td>
<td>Official Labour Market Statistics</td>
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<td>NNR</td>
<td>National Nature Reserve</td>
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<td>NO₂; NOₓ</td>
<td>Nitrogen dioxide; oxides of nitrogen</td>
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<td>ODPM</td>
<td>Office of the Deputy Prime Minister</td>
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<td>ONS</td>
<td>Office for National Statistics</td>
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<td>PPC</td>
<td>Pollution Prevention and Control</td>
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<td>Planning Policy Statement</td>
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<td>Planning Policy Guidance</td>
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<td>PPP</td>
<td>Plans, Policies and Programmes</td>
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<td>Regional Sustainable Development Framework</td>
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<td>RSS</td>
<td>Regional Spatial Strategy</td>
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<td>SA</td>
<td>Sustainability Appraisal</td>
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<td>SAR</td>
<td>Sustainability Appraisal Report</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEA</td>
<td>Strategic Environment Assessment</td>
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<td>SPD</td>
<td>Supplementary Planning Document</td>
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<td>SoS</td>
<td>Secretary of State</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSSI</td>
<td>Site of Special Scientific Interest</td>
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<td>SAC</td>
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<td>Special Protection Area</td>
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<td>SUDS</td>
<td>Sustainable Urban Drainage System</td>
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11. REFERENCES


Ref. 2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), 2005 – Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents

Ref. 3 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, Her Majesty’s Stationary Office 2004, (Statutory Instrument 2004 No.1633)

Ref. 4 The Scoping Report for the SA of the LDF Core Strategy can be found on http://www.nelincs.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/9ECCAE7D-EDF0-40EC-9881-06B5DB1B5E31/0/ldsseascope1205.pdf