

Aims and Objectives

National Policy

2.1 In 1991 a new section (54A) was added to the 1990 Act which established the principle that development is to be plan led. This was followed by a series of PPGs, which began to address the need for more sustainable forms of development. The major PPGs that are relevant to North Lincolnshire are as follows:

- PPG1 (1992) sets out the way the new plan led system should operate. This includes how to weigh the development plan against other material considerations. The revised advice (1997) emphasises the role of mixed use development in achieving sustainability.
- PPG3 (Revised 2000) requires that everyone should have the opportunity of a decent home. The housing needs of all the community should be recognised, including those in need of affordable or special housing in both urban or rural areas. The revised advice requires that local planning authorities should provide sufficient housing land but give priority to re-using previously developed land within urban areas, bringing empty homes back into use and converting existing buildings, in preference to the development of greenfield sites.
- PPG4 (1992) relating to industrial and commercial development places emphasis on wider locational factors, which minimise the need to travel by private car. Mixed uses are to be encouraged unless it can be shown that amenity will be damaged.

Environmental quality is to be pursued in all commercial development.

- PPG6 (Revised 1996) identifies town centres as the main location for retail development rather than out-of-centre locations. The advice states that authorities should adopt a sequential approach to the location of new retail development. Town centre sites should be prioritised, permitting edge-of-centre locations only where there are no sites available in the centre. Out-of-centre retail locations should be considered only in exceptional circumstances.
- PPG7 (Revised 1997) provides guidance on land use planning in rural areas. It states that there are often opportunities for re-using or adapting existing rural buildings for new commercial, industrial or recreational uses. Such re-use or adaptation can help to reduce demand for new building in the countryside, encourage new enterprise and provide new jobs needed in rural areas.
- PPG9 (1994) relating to nature conservation, sets out the principles and policies that apply to the integration of nature conservation priorities and land use planning. This is to be achieved by making adequate provision for development and economic growth whilst assuring effective conservation of wildlife and natural features as an important element of a clean and healthy natural environment.
- PPG12 (Revised 1999) has been re-focused to provide a more strategic overview of the role and importance of development plans within the planning system. It stresses the importance that the

Government attaches to the need for plans to be prepared, and updated, more quickly and efficiently than has been the case in the past. It outlines key issues on plan content and procedures, but does not attempt to summarise the Government's planning policies for particular issues or subjects.

- PPG13 (1994) on transport seeks to reduce the need to travel, influence the rate of traffic growth and reduce the environmental impact of transport overall. This is to be achieved by promoting alternatives to car travel and reducing the need for commuting by car. In land use terms there is a need to focus on promoting areas which are highly accessible by means other than the car. The location of major generators of travel such as housing, industry and retail uses is significantly affected by this guidance. Similarly major leisure facilities should be located close to existing transport nodes which are accessible by means other than the private car. Car parking in central locations is to be controlled.
- PPG15 (1994) seeks to provide effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment through the planning system. It includes policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas and the historic landscape and complements the advice given in PPG16.
- PPG16 (1990) sets out the principles of dealing with archaeology in the planning process, providing guidance on how archaeological remains should be evaluated, preserved or recorded. The prime objective is the preservation of archaeological remains in situ and there is a clear presumption against development

that would adversely affect sites of national importance.

- PPG20 (1992) on Coastal Planning sets out the principles for the consideration of coast related planning issues. The need to assess economic, social and recreational activities and the importance of landscape, nature conservation and habitats which are particular to coastal locations. This has to be considered within the context of rising sea levels. The role of the development plan is to reconcile development requirements with the need to protect, conserve and, where appropriate, improve the landscape, environmental quality, wildlife habitats and recreational opportunities.
- PPG25 (2002) sets out principles for the management and reduction of flood risk through the land-use planning process. Policies in development plans should outline the consideration which will be given to flood risk issues and, bearing in mind the uncertainties in predicting flooding, adopt a precautionary approach to the location of development which may be affected by or have an effect on the risk of flooding.

2.2 Planning Policy Guidance aims to ensure that housing and employment land is closely related and concentrated within large urban areas and in locations which are well served by public transport and which maximise opportunities for walking and cycling. It also stresses the importance of re-using derelict and vacant sites and retaining the best and most versatile farmland. Significant residential increases in small towns and villages, ribbon development and housing in the open countryside should be avoided.

A full list of PPGs is given in Appendix 1.

Regional Planning Guidance

- 2.3 Regional Planning Guidance for Yorkshire and Humberside (RPG12) seeks to ensure that the region's needs are met in a sustainable manner in terms of jobs, houses, standards of living and quality of life whilst protecting the critical environmental assets of the area. In particular, RPG12 promotes the following objectives:
- i) to promote economic prosperity and the achievement of a competitive position in national and international markets;
 - ii) to conserve and, where possible, to enhance the region's environment;
 - iii) to facilitate the processes of industrial adjustment, economic diversification and urban and rural regeneration and renewal; and
 - iv) to make the best use of the available resources and encourage efficient use of energy.
- 2.4 Regional Planning Guidance also advises that new development should be closely related to existing settlement patterns whilst preventing the loss of valuable open spaces in urban areas. The guidance particularly emphasises the need to encourage inward investment and job creation and for priority to be given to regenerating derelict, contaminated and under-used land and to improve the environment of such areas.

Humberside Structure Plan

- 2.5 The broad aims of the current Structure Plan were drawn up in the mid 1980s and are:
- i) to encourage economic activity and create new jobs;
 - ii) to meet housing needs and provide a choice of where to live;
 - iii) to make the best use of existing resources and encourage investment where it is most needed;
 - iv) to secure a co-ordinated transport system;
 - v) to ensure access to a wide range of shopping and other service facilities; and
 - vi) to make the best use of the environment taking into account the need to conserve and enhance it.

Other Plans and Strategies

- 2.6 The Humber Estuary Management Strategy (HEMS) has been prepared by a partnership of public and private organisations in order to provide a framework to assist in the integrated and co-ordinated management of the social, environmental and economic fabric of the estuary. The HEMS provides an overview of estuary-wide, land use planning needs and opportunities to inform the development planning process. This strategy will be augmented by the Humber Estuary Shoreline Management Plan (HESMP) which will provide both short and long term strategies for flood defence.

Local Plan Preparation

2.7 Local Plans must now place greater emphasis on consistency and accountability. It is increasingly important for Local Plans to have clear aims and objectives. Monitoring, evaluation and review procedures, linked to the aims and objectives of the plan, need to be established to assess how the Plan is performing. Agenda 21 has also encouraged a process of community based policy development and corporate working. The policies in the Local Plan must also reflect and, to an extent, guide the other corporate strategies of the authority.

Aims and Objectives

2.8 The aim of the Local Plan is:

to improve and enhance the environment of North Lincolnshire by enabling development to be undertaken in the most economically, socially and environmentally sustainable way.

The objectives are:

- i) to facilitate urban and rural regeneration, making optimum use of derelict and under-used sites;
- ii) to allocate land for a range of house types, including an adequate supply of affordable housing;
- iii) to promote a healthy rural and urban economy, achieve a competitive position in national and international markets and create sustainable employment by allocating appropriate sites for commercial and industrial development;

- iv) to maintain vibrant town and village centres as accessible locations for the community and strengthen and develop their service role;
- v) to maximise the opportunities for walking, cycling and public transport and to reduce the need to travel, particularly by private car;
- vi) to conserve and, where possible, enhance the local character and diversity of the natural, historic and built environment of North Lincolnshire;
- vii) to maintain and enhance the biodiversity of North Lincolnshire;
- viii) to minimise the use of finite resources and identify sites that will provide a viable supply of minerals for the Local Plan period;
- ix) to reduce pollution and improve the quality of land, air and water and to encourage self sufficiency in waste management and disposal of waste in accordance with the proximity principle.

2.9 These general objectives have been used to develop and guide the strategy of the Local Plan and the individual topic chapters that follow. More detailed objectives that stem from the general objectives are set out below:

- i) To facilitate urban and rural regeneration, making optimum use of derelict and under-used sites:
 - to direct new development to brownfield sites, wherever practicable;

- to encourage mixed use development on vacant sites, particularly in the urban area and principal settlements;
 - to support the environmental enhancement of derelict sites;
 - to encourage the diversification of the rural economy and the re-use of rural buildings in order to create employment opportunities and to reduce the need to travel in the rural areas;
- ii) to allocate land for a range of house types, including an adequate supply of affordable housing;
- to provide most land for new housing in locations where the majority of employment opportunities, public transport and services are situated;
 - to encourage the provision of affordable housing for low income groups and those with special needs;
 - to provide a range of sites for new housing development, in terms of size and type;
 - to ensure a high quality of design in all housing development.
- iii) To promote a healthy rural and urban economy, achieve a competitive position in national and international markets, and create sustainable employment by allocating appropriate sites for commercial and industrial development:
- to provide land for new commerce and industry;
 - to provide a variety of sites to meet different commercial and industrial development needs;
 - to direct the majority of commercial and industrial development to locations which minimise the need to travel;
 - to provide commercial and industrial sites which take advantage of particular assets or which address problems of dereliction;
 - to provide commercial and industrial sites in rural locations, compatible with the area's scale and character, which will help to promote and maintain a sustainable rural economy.
- iv) To maintain vibrant town and village centres as accessible locations for the community and strengthen and develop their retailing, leisure (including sports' provision) and service role:
- to concentrate new shopping, office and leisure development in town centres to enhance their vitality and viability and to maximise public transport use and encourage linked trips;
 - to enhance the attractiveness of existing centres and reduce the fear and risk of crime;
 - to protect and support local shops, in towns and villages, in order to maintain easy access to shopping facilities for people with mobility

Aims and Objectives

- difficulties and people without cars;
 - to identify sites for new leisure and tourism use to widen North Lincolnshire's economic base;
 - to protect recreational open space from development and develop a network of open space, particularly in the urban area;
 - to concentrate new community facilities in locations that are accessible to the communities they serve;
 - to ensure suitable access to all new development for the convenience of all residents of North Lincolnshire.
- v) To maximise the opportunities for walking, cycling and public transport and to reduce the need to travel, particularly by private car:
- to maintain and develop a safe and effective transport system accessible to all users;
 - to direct development to locations which encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport;
 - to improve infrastructure links between industrial and commercial areas to strategic inter-regional and trans-European transport networks;
 - to ensure adequate access for all travellers to North Lincolnshire's centres of population;
- to develop a network of cycle routes in North Lincolnshire;
 - to encourage the movement of freight by rail or water, wherever practicable.
- vi) To conserve and, where possible, enhance the local character and diversity of the natural, historic and built environment of North Lincolnshire:
- to maintain and enhance all areas of landscape to create a high quality environment;
 - to ensure new development does not detract from the quality and character of the surrounding landscape;
 - to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land;
 - to safeguard important amenity areas within settlements;
 - to protect trees and woodland areas and promote further planting;
 - to safeguard nationally important archaeological sites and monuments;
 - to protect and preserve other sites of archaeological importance from development which would adversely affect them;
 - to conserve and enhance North Lincolnshire's historic areas and buildings and landscapes;
 - to develop a wider strategy for the greening of the countryside surrounding the

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to safeguard all sites of nature conservation importance and Regionally Important Geological/ Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). <p>vii) To maintain and, where possible, enhance the bio diversity of North Lincolnshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to fulfil the Authority's obligations as a competent authority as defined in the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994, and to contribute to the maintenance and enhancement of the Humber Flats, Marshes and Coast Special Protection Area for birds (SPA) and Ramsar Site and Thorne Moors Candidate Special Area of Conservation (SAC); ● to safeguard all statutory nature conservation sites (SSSI, NNR, LNR) through the planning process; ● to safeguard all locally designated Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) through the planning process; ● to safeguard species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; ● to enhance the bio-diversity of North Lincolnshire through the development and implementation of a local Bio Diversity Action Plan; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to maintain important wildlife corridors including hedgerows, small woodlands, river corridors and wide drove road verges; ● to seek innovative habitat creation schemes linked to minerals and waste disposal consents; ● To use planning conditions to compensate for or mitigate the effects of development on key wildlife interests. <p>viii) To minimise the use of finite resources and identify sites which will provide a viable supply of minerals for the Local Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to encourage the most appropriate use of mineral resources and the re-use of appropriate materials to minimise the demand for new aggregates; ● to protect North Lincolnshire's residents and environment, as far as possible, from the adverse impacts of mineral working and associated activities; ● to ensure that mineral sites are restored to the highest standards of beneficial after-use. <p>ix) To reduce pollution and improve the quality of land, air and water and to encourage self sufficiency in waste management and disposal in accordance with the proximity principle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● to minimise pollution of land, air and water by industrial sources; |
|---|--|

Aims and Objectives

- to protect the environment from potential pollution from waste developments;
- to promote sustainability in waste management, including the minimisation, re-use, recycling and recovery of waste;
- to encourage energy recovery to reduce waste disposal and improve environmental conditions;
- to contribute towards self sufficiency in waste management facilities in the region and disposal of waste in accordance with the proximity principle;
- to ensure high quality environmental protection for all waste disposal facilities.

2.10 These objectives have been used to guide the preparation of each of the policy chapters that follow. Progress in achieving these objectives, through the policy making and development control process will be carefully monitored. Key targets, linked to each main objective are set out in the Monitoring and Review Chapter at the end of the Local Plan.