

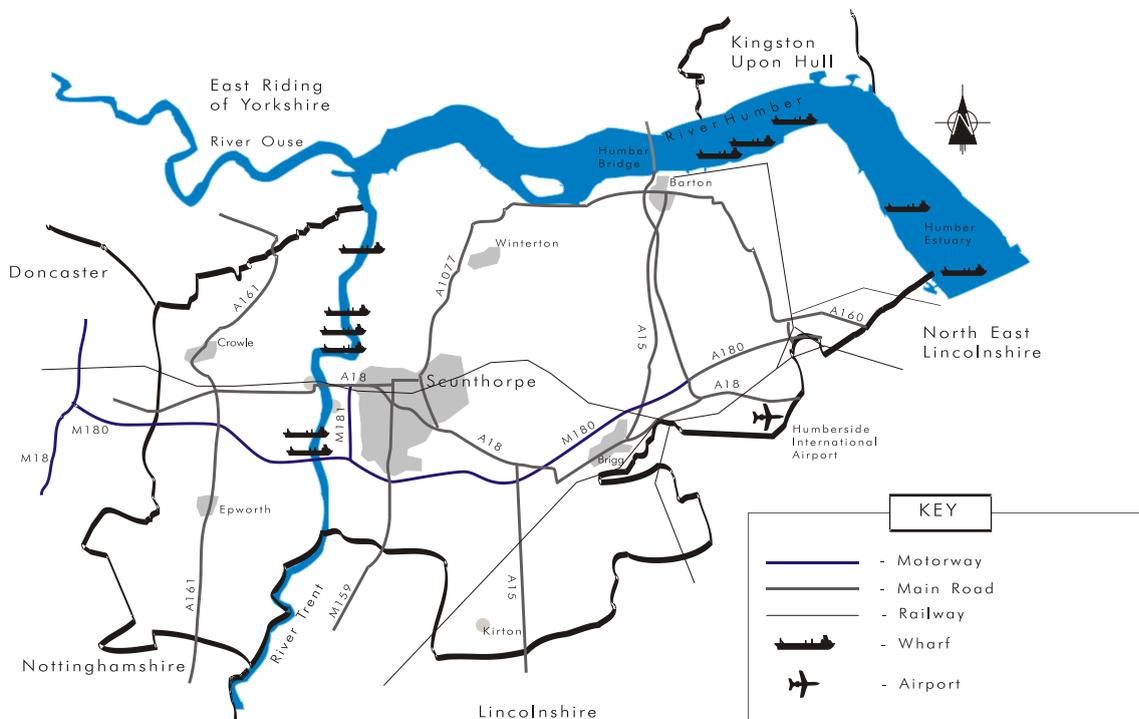
## Introduction

### North Lincolnshire

1.1 North Lincolnshire Council was established as a unitary authority on 1st April 1996. The Council comprises the former districts of Scunthorpe, Glanford and the Isle of Axholme part of Boothferry, which were previously part of the County of Humberside. The new North Lincolnshire Council is responsible for local and strategic planning and is now also the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, the Highways Authority and the Energy Conservation Authority.

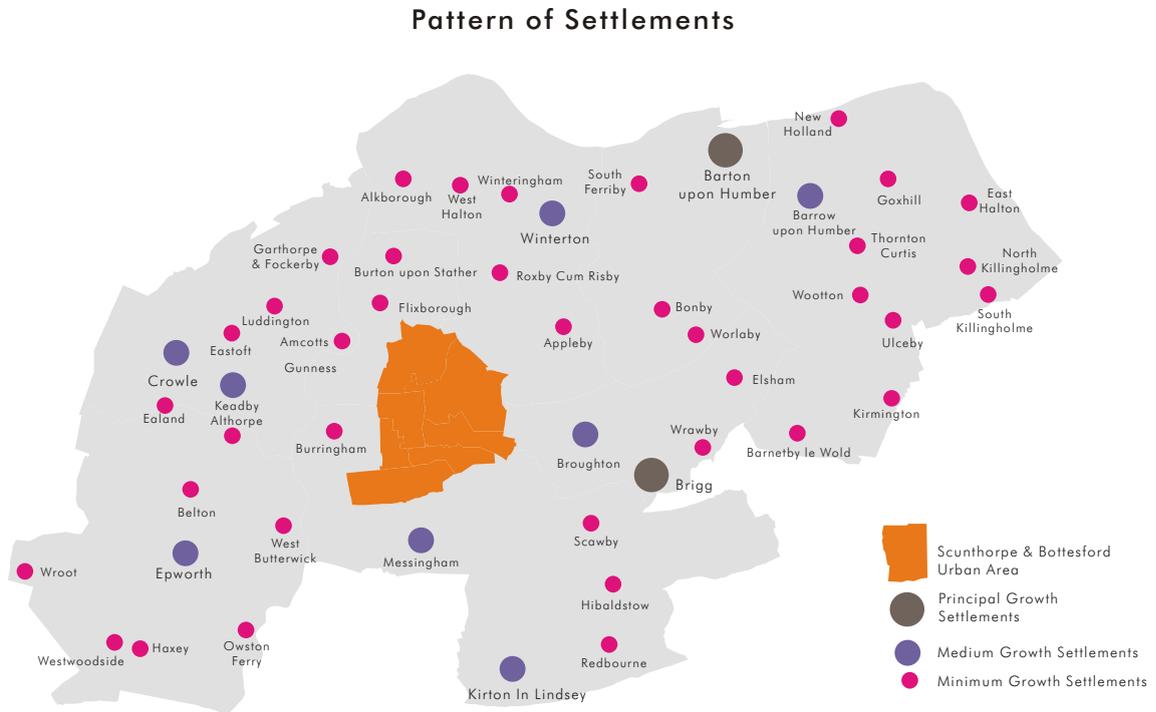
1.2 North Lincolnshire is located on the southern side of the Humber estuary which is the major northern gateway to Europe, with port and wharf facilities along the banks of the Humber and Trent offering international trading opportunities. The M180/M18 provide excellent connections to the M62 route and the A1 and M1 north-south corridors. The A15 Humber Bridge opens up access to the north east of England. The area is served by the North East Trans-Pennine rail route, which provides access to the East Coast Main Line and also the Regional Railways Central Line. Humberside International Airport is situated in North Lincolnshire and is a regional airport with full customs status.

**Figure 1** - North Lincolnshire Location





**Figure 3 - Pattern of Settlements**



the area. During the late 1980s new industry was attracted to Scunthorpe and the 1990s saw the re-birth of British Steel and the consolidation of newer industries. The local economy is now characterised by a more diverse range of industries and much lower unemployment than 10 years ago.

**Aims of North Lincolnshire Council**

1.6 The Council is committed to ensuring that the people of North Lincolnshire have access to a broad range of opportunities which aim to improve the quality of life of local communities. Quality of life has many elements, including economic, environmental and social issues, as well as safety and health. It is part of the role of local government to balance the needs of local communities.

1.7 To achieve this the Council aims to work closely with local businesses and local communities to sustain and develop the area, through new investment and growth that protects and benefits these communities and their environment. Holistic regeneration means the Council will act as one organisation and will seek to influence its partners to work in the same direction. It also aims to treat economic, social and environmental renewal together from the outset, ensuring integration between areas such as revitalisation of town centres, transport, community care, crime reduction and business competitiveness.

1.8 The Council’s vision is that of a prosperous, safe and healthy place to live and work providing an attractive town and country environment in which people take pride.

### Planning Legislation

- 1.9 The North Lincolnshire Local Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (the 1990 Act) as amended by the Planning and Compensation Act 1991 (the 1991 Act). Section 54a of the 1990 Act requires planning decisions to be made in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.10 Legislation and guidance suggest that the local planning authority should give due consideration to the following issues:
- i) the development and other use of land in their area;
  - ii) the conservation of the natural beauty and amenity of land;
  - iii) the improvement of the physical environment;
  - iv) the management of traffic.

### Government Planning Policy Guidance

- 1.11 Central government policy guidance is set out in circulars and Planning and Mineral Policy Guidance notes (PPGs and MPGs). Local planning authorities must take these into account when preparing development plans, and determining individual planning applications. Appendix 1 lists current Planning and Mineral Policy Guidance Notes.

### Regional Planning Guidance

- 1.12 Regional Planning Guidance provides a regional framework for the

preparation of local authority development plans.

- 1.13 Guidance for Yorkshire and Humberside (RPG12), provides a broad strategic development framework for the region for the next fifteen to twenty years and normally sets out the scale and distribution of new housing and priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal. New Regional Planning Guidance for Yorkshire and the Humber was approved in October 2001.

### The Structure Plan

- 1.14 The Structure Plan provides the broad strategic policy framework for planning and development control at the local level. It also secures consistency between local plans for neighbouring areas.
- 1.15 Strategic guidance for the North Lincolnshire Local Plan is presently set by the Humberside Structure Plan Replacement (1987) as amended by Alteration No. 1 (1993). After local government reorganisation, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire Council assumed joint responsibility for preparing the South Humber Structure Plan and preliminary discussions on this work have been held. In the meantime, the proposals in this Local Plan conform generally with the principles set out in the approved Humberside Structure Plan. However, some significant policy areas in the Structure Plan have now been superseded by more recent government policy advice. The most important of these are the guidance on sustainability, transport, shopping and town centres, affordable housing and encouraging more development on brownfield, rather than greenfield sites. As far as

## North Lincolnshire Local Plan

1.16 The Local Plan covers the whole of the North Lincolnshire area and will eventually replace the following plans:

County of Lincoln, Parts of Lindsey Development Plan	1955
County of West Riding of Yorkshire Development Plan	1955
Scunthorpe Town Map (Amendment No. 10)	1966
Crowle and Ealand Local Plan	1972
Messingham District Plan	1981
Scunthorpe Town Centre District Plan	1982
Barton upon Humber District Plan	1982
Ashby High Street District Plan	1985
Barton Clay Pits Subject Plan	1987
West Glanford Local Plan	1989
Brigg Local Plan	1989
Kirton in Lindsey Review Consultation Draft	1989
South Axholme Local Plan	1990
Review of Inset Proposals for Winterton Consultation Draft	1991
Broughton - Development Boundary for Wressle	1991
Review of Inset Proposals for Burringham Consultation Draft	1991
Wolds Villages Local Plan	1991
Intensive Livestock Units Local Plan	1992
East Glanford Local Plan Adoption Draft	1992
Barton upon Humber Local Plan (Part Review) Adoption Draft	1993
Glanford Local Plan Consultation Draft <sup>2</sup>	1994
Scunthorpe Borough Local Plan <sup>3</sup>	1994
Scunthorpe Borough Local Plan Proposed Changes	1995
Humberside Minerals Local Plan Consultation Draft	1995
Humberside Waste Local Plan Consultation Draft	1996
Boothferry Local Plan Deposit Draft <sup>4</sup>	1996
Scunthorpe Borough Local Plan Modifications	1996

2 North Lincolnshire Council passed a resolution not to continue with the Glanford Local Plan

3 Scunthorpe Borough Local Plan is being progressed towards adoption.

4 The Boothferry Local Plan has been the subject of a Local Plan Public Inquiry, however, North Lincolnshire Council passed a resolution in November 1996 not to continue with the Plan. The recommendations of the Local Plan Inspector have been considered and have been taken into account, where appropriate, in the preparation of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan

possible, the Local Plan reflects this new advice. This has meant that the new strategy for North Lincolnshire has been prepared in advance of the work on the new South Humber Structure Plan, but this is justified in view of the very high priority being given by the government to achieving local plan coverage as soon as possible.

### Purpose of the Plan

- 1.17 The purpose of the Plan is to provide a single Local Plan for North Lincolnshire Council as required by the 1990 Act and to provide guidance for development within the whole of the area for 10 years from when the Local Plan is placed on deposit by:-
- i) expanding and amplifying the strategic policies set out in the Structure Plan;
  - ii) providing detailed guidance to developers on the future use of land;
  - iii) providing a sound basis for taking decisions on planning applications;
  - iv) securing the most efficient use of land resources.

### Procedure

- 1.18 The Local Plan has to go through a series of steps which allows all interested parties such as other local authorities, statutory undertakers, parish and town councils, relevant Government department bodies and organisations, Council Partnerships and the public to comment on the policies and proposals. At each stage, the Plan is revised, where appropriate, to take account of the comments which have been made. Details are

set out in Figure 4. Council Members have been involved, through seminars, with the process of preparing the Plan and other needs and aspirations have been taken into consideration.

- 1.19 This Plan is at the Adoption Draft Stage and was the subject of a public inquiry in October 2001 where a government appointed Planning Inspector considered all unresolved representations from the Deposit and Revised Deposit stages. Following the Inquiry, the Inspector published a Report on Objections in January 2003 that recommended changes to the Plan. The Inspector's recommendations were considered and a Modifications Report was officially placed on Deposit for public consultation in February 2003. It is considered that no new matters were raised at this Modification stage that materially affects the content of the Plan. Further modifications to the Plan are not proposed and the Adoption Draft Local Plan is to be formally adopted after 28 days from publication unless directed otherwise by the Secretary of State. The validity of the Plan may be challenged within a six-week period from adoption.

### How to use this Document

- 1.20 Each chapter includes detailed policies for the development and use of land; the chapters carry equal weight and the topics are not covered in any priority order. The Local Plan policies are highlighted in bold with the reasoned justification set out in italics. In using the Local Plan, it is vital to see the document as a whole. A number of different policies, included in different chapters, may all be relevant to a particular planning proposal. Policy DS1 in the Development Standards Chapter, on development standards, for example, will be relevant to most development proposals. Each policy carries equal

weight and one policy should not be preferred over another.

1.21 The proposals map is a general map which covers the Council area. This indicates where policies covering a large area will apply, such as areas of high landscape value. More detailed policies are indicated on the inset maps. It is important to note that the settlement boundaries defined on the proposals map show the boundary of the settlement to be used for all planning and development control purposes. They may not necessarily coincide with administrative or parish boundaries.

1.22 The Local Plan policies should be read in conjunction with the relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance which is published separately. This provides detailed guidance to developers when coming forward with specific development proposals.

1.23 For help interpreting or understanding this document please contact staff in the Development Plans Team, Directorate of Environment and Public Protection, (Telephone 01724 297579).

## Environmental Appraisal

1.24 Local authorities must have regard to environmental considerations in preparing their general policies and proposals for the Local Plan. The key legislation and guidance for environmental appraisals of plans is:

- i) the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which requires that development plans should include policies for the conservation of the natural beauty and amenity of the land, and for the improvement of the physical environment;

- ii) the Town and Country Planning (Development Plan) Regulations 1991 require local authorities to take account of environmental considerations when preparing development plans;

- iii) PPG12 requires local planning authorities to conduct an environmental appraisal of plans, policies and proposals as they are being drawn up;

- iv) the Environmental Appraisal of Development Plans : a good practice guide, 1993, (DoE), gives guidance on how this can be done.

1.25 This Local Plan aims to guide and promote sustainable development. Sustainability can be thought of at three levels: global sustainability, the stewardship of natural resources, and the conservation and enhancement of local environment quality. The Environmental Appraisal checks the Plan's impact against criteria covering these three levels.

1.26 Environmental Appraisal of the policies contained in the Local Plan has been carried out at four key draft stages of the procedure of plan preparation. Firstly, initial drafts of the policies were appraised. Secondly, revised policies set out in the Pre-Deposit Draft of the Local Plan (August 1998) were assessed. Thirdly, after representations were made to the Pre-Deposit Draft, amendments to the Plan were made and the new policies set out in this document were assessed. A fourth appraisal has now been undertaken of the Revised Deposit Draft Plan. By using this iterative process, the policies have become progressively more refined in terms of minimising their environmental impact.

1.27 To ensure the assessment was objective, the Directorate's

Environment Team managed the Environmental Appraisal work.

- 1.28 The Environmental Appraisal covers the following issues:
- i) Characterising the environment - it is important to have a baseline of environmental stock against which to judge effects. At this stage information is incomplete but the appraisal identifies indicators relating to the three levels mentioned in 1.28 above.
  - ii) Scoping - has been carried out to ensure that the Local Plan has covered the right range of policies and proposals. Each policy has been checked against advice and guidance in the PPGs and conformity in principle to Regional Planning Guidance and the Structure Plan.
  - iii) Appraising - detailed appraisal has been carried out at the following levels:
    - a) Strategy options; major positive and negative impacts were identified.
    - b) Plan aims; individually appraised identifying the likely effects on the environmental stock criteria.
    - c) Policies; individually appraised identifying the likely effects on the environmental stock criteria.
- 1.29 The Environmental Appraisal and the report on the process and method is published separately from the Local Plan. Copies are available from the Council Offices.

## Resources and Implementation

- 1.30 Implementing policies in the North Lincolnshire Local Plan will depend on the availability of financial, human and physical resources from North Lincolnshire Council, the private sector and other public agencies. The involvement of the private sector will be a major factor in the uptake of sites allocated for new development. The extent to which public agencies are able to allocate resources to improve infrastructure, the environment and services generally will have an influence on the operation of the private development sector. North Lincolnshire Council will seek to secure sufficient resources to enable the various policies contained within the Local Plan to be implemented. This process could involve the Council forming partnerships with local interests and private developers.

Figure 4

## Stages of Preparation for the North Lincolnshire Local Plan

### Stage

#### 1. Plan Preparation and Pre - Deposit Consultation

The Local Plan is researched and prepared; the plan is published for pre-deposit consultation and comments are invited.

#### 2. Deposit

Following consideration of comments at the pre-deposit stage, the Plan is placed "on deposit" and objections/representations are invited.

All objection/representations are considered and discussions held with objectors to resolve them.

#### 3. Revised Deposit

The Plan is placed on deposit for further public consultation on the changes proposed in the Revised Deposit Draft.

#### 4. Local Plan Inquiry

If any objections remain unresolved, a Public Inquiry is held, chaired by an Inspector appointed by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

#### 5. Report

Inspector prepares report of Inquiry. Report considered by Local Authority. Modifications prepared if necessary.

#### 6. Modification

Inspector's Report published and objections and representations to the proposed modifications are invited.

#### 7. Final Stages

Objections to modifications considered by Local Authority. A further inquiry may be held and more modifications made. If not proceed to Adoption.

#### 8. Adoption

