

**APPENDIX 2 – POLICY APPRAISAL SHEETS OF CHANGES AS A RESULT OF CONSULTATION**

## Strategic Policy 1 – A Sustainable Pattern of Places

### Policy Title: Settlement Pattern

Any Assumptions:

- The Council has long used a tiered approach to the development of the District, through a Settlement Pattern or Settlement Hierarchy, matching settlements to the most appropriate tier depending on the function they play in relation to other settlements and based on the services and facilities they offer. This approach is used across the country and is recognised nationally as providing a sound basis for development in Local Plans.
- In order to assign settlements to a tier, the minimum range of facilities each type of village would be expected to have are set out, the points are worked out and this becomes the threshold for each part of the pattern.
- The Council will have a pattern that incorporates some smaller villages where they are on or very near the main strategic road network.

### Change Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation

- The most significant change is the removal of the clusters from the policy, as in a changing world of internet use and service provision, these were no longer felt to be effective. There was also risk that they could be confused with the cluster approach in the National Planning Policy Framework, which reflects a different type of cluster. Other changes to the policy predominantly affect individual settlements and do not change the underlying approach used in the policy. The other changes are minor amendments to the text for clarification or in response to objections. There is unlikely to be significant alteration to the sustainability appraisal as a result.

### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- No changes

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	There is no direct link with this objective. The policy does not indicate the development potential attached to settlements, this is for other policies to identify. The biodiversity policy will deal more specifically with this issue.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The sustainability appraisal did not identify any impact directly attributable to this policy. Any impact on landscape or townscape will be dealt with in combination with other relevant policies. The changes to the policy do not affect this assessment.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the	The sustainability appraisal did not identify any impact directly attributable to this policy. The changes to the policy do not	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

<p>impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p> <p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.</p>	<p>affect this assessment.</p> <p>The previous sustainability appraisal identified the fact that this policy does not establish how much development will be accommodated in a settlement, or in which location. Other policies of the plan deal specifically with this issue. The flood risk policies expect development in the named settlements to mitigate against flood risk and not make flood risk worse in surrounding areas. In the coastal flood hazard zones, housing will be restricted and in some named coastal settlements there will be no housing growth, thus avoiding the risk is a key issue for the Core Strategy. The changes to the policy do not affect this view.</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.</p>	<p>The previous sustainability appraisal identified that, although the policy forms a clear baseline for guiding new growth based on capacity to provide and sustain a pattern of viable communities, the growth is dealt with through other policies. It identified the impact as neutral as, until the level of growth is identified, the ability to meet the objective cannot be identified. However, this has been reviewed and the impact identified as uncertain. This policy does set the tone for how the growth policies will be delivered and so it will have a role to play in respect of this objective, how the growth will emerge is not clear, beyond the proposed extension to industrial estates in the District. The changes to the policy do not affect this.</p>	<p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>
<p>6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss</p>	<p>The prioritisation of brownfield land and minimisation of the loss of agricultural land falls within the remit of other policies within</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>

of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	the plan. The changes to the policy do not affect this.					
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified a positive impact on the basis that the location of services and facilities is the driving force in creating the Settlement Pattern. It also includes the bus services to the settlements, however, East Lindsey is a large rural district and therefore the use of the car is extremely difficult to reduce. The decision on where to place growth and how much is subject to another policy of the plan. This policy will also be used with conjunction with the transport policy, which advocates locating development near to services and facilities and improving accessibility both in the design of buildings and accessibility around settlements. The changes to this policy do not affect this.	√	Low	Local	Long Term	Long Term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None, This is dealt with through other policies of the plan.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified the positive link between the policy's acknowledgement of the role of services and facilities in providing the building blocks for communities and the objective to provide the basis for a network of thriving, healthy and sustainable communities. The changes to the policy do not affect this.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Medium Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	This is dealt with by other policies of the plan. This policy is cross referred to in the affordable housing policy so forms part of the strategy underpinning it but does not directly seek to do this. The changes to the policy do not affect this.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Medium Term
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure	None – this is dealt with through other policies of the plan.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A

appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.								
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	The background work to the policy recognises the availability of health care facilities and infrastructure for healthy lifestyles such as recreation space, however, the policy itself does not directly influence this.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A		
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified that this was dealt through other policies of the plan. This is primarily the case, although on further reflection, the policy aims, in part, to reduce the need to travel through an understanding of the role of settlements and their level of services and facilities. Although this re-evaluation does not change the impact assigned to this policy, it should be recognised. The changes to the policy do not affect this.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A		
<p>Summary :</p> <p>This key policy sets the scene for the Core Strategy and forms a clear baseline from which to guide new growth based on capacity of settlements to provide and sustain a pattern of viable communities across the District. As a result of its strategic nature, the majority of the direct impacts of the policy on the objectives are neutral. However, it forms a positive baseline for a number of other policies and therefore potential positive impact on a couple of the sustainability objectives – improving access to services and facilities and supporting vibrant communities. The impact on the objective to promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district has been changed to uncertain from neutral. Although the policy has not changed, the impact as been reassessed. The role of the policy in setting the framework for the employment policies is a key element and therefore, although employment is directly dealt with elsewhere, this will shape the distribution. How employment will be delivered will depend on other policies, hence the assessment as uncertain. The changes made to the policy do not affect this assessment.</p>								

## STRATEGIC POLICY 1A – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Policy Statement : SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Any Assumptions:

All development should conform to the key elements of sustainable development.

The policy is a broad guiding principle and other policies of the plan deal more specifically with individual elements of sustainable development.

### New policy 2012/13 Plan

### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- o No change

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The policy itself does not refer to biodiversity, although environmental considerations are a key aspect of sustainable development. The biodiversity policy deals with this more specifically.	✓	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The policy itself does not refer to landscape, townscape and the historic environment, although this would be part of the environmental considerations which are a key aspect of sustainable development. The design policy deals with this issue more specifically.	✓	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The policy itself does not refer to natural resources, although environmental considerations are a key aspect of sustainable development.	✓	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	The policy itself does not refer to flood risk although this will require consideration as part of sustainable development. Flood risk is dealt with more specifically through other policies of the Plan.	○	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The policy refers to improving economic conditions in the District and is therefore wholly compatible with the objective, although economic considerations will have to	✓	Medium	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term

	be balanced with social and environmental considerations under this policy.							
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy itself does not refer to previously used land, although loss of agricultural land is important under a number of strands of sustainable development from the economic benefit to the agricultural community, the social benefits of local food production and the environmental aspects of biodiversity, potential flood alleviation and reduction of food miles.	○	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The policy itself does not refer to accessibility to services. However, sustainable development would consider the social benefits of a new development or the accessibility to services of new housing.	○	Medium	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	The policy is unlikely to have any direct impact on this objective.	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term		
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The policy itself does not refer to this objective; however, the impact of development on communities will be an important consideration as a social consideration of sustainable development.	✓	Medium	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policy itself does not refer to affordable housing, although affordable housing proposals would be judged against this policy.	○	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	The policy is wholly compatible with this objective as it seeks sustainable development.	✓✓	Medium	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy	The social considerations for development would include facilities for healthy lifestyles, should they be part of the application under	✓	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		

lifestyles” 13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	consideration. Climate change is an important aspect of sustainable development. Therefore, the policy is wholly compatible with the objective.	✓✓	Medium	Beyond District	Permanent	Long Term
<p>Summary :</p> <p>This policy statement seeks to set the framework for sustainable development into which the other policies of the plan fit. The impact of the policy on the objectives is largely positive or neutral. The neutral impacts area predominantly because, although the policy embraces the objective, other policies of the Plan deal more specifically with the issue or because the objective is very specific, whereas the policy is must broader in scope.</p>						



## STRATEGIC POLICY 2 – HOUSING GROWTH AND THE LOCATION OF INLAND DEVELOPMENT

### Policy Title: Housing Growth and the Location of Inland Growth

#### Any Assumptions:

- 38% of East Lindsey is in an area of high coastal flood risk. In order to meet our objectives of having a network of thriving, safer and healthy communities and try and tackle the causes and effects of global climate change, the Council believe it must address this issue head on. To this end, it is not realistic or practical to promote an option of large-scale housing growth in the coastal flood hazard zones, when it will clearly be out of conformity with national planning policy and key consultees have already indicated that they will object.
- Four options were considered, each assume a proportion of the required housing will be provided within the five main towns of the District Louth, Horncastle, Spilsby, Alford and Coningsby/Tattershall. The amount of development distributed between the villages varies between options based on their role as defined by the settlement pattern.
- This Option selected is option 2 which proposes a spread of development across the Districts five inland towns and the large villages outside the Coastal Flood Hazard Zones. The proportions of development will be calculated based on existing populations. Housing in the medium and small villages will be permitted only using the exceptions policies.

#### Change Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation

- The draft Core Strategy did not contain a policy relating to the Option but set out its parameters. This is the first time the policy wording has appeared in the Core Strategy. This is therefore effectively the first appraisal of the policy, although an appraisal of the parameters was carried out as part of the option selection process.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- **There has been a small change to the housing target and the trajectory has been changed to an even distribution over the plan period. Also, some minor amendments to the wording of the supporting text for clarity. Does not affect the sustainability appraisal.**

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The previous appraisal identified that greenfield sites would be required in each town to accommodate the level of growth. This is also likely to apply to the large villages. These would have to be carefully selected to ensure that areas of biodiversity importance were not compromised. Until the sites are known, the impact cannot be quantified. The council will not support development on sites with protected species. The Biodiversity	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

	<p>policy will work in combination with other policies to protect local, national and internationally protected sites. There will be less impact through this option than options with a more rural dimension.</p>					
<p>2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.</p>	<p>The previous assessment identified that this approach will concentrate a high proportion of development in the district's towns which will lead to greater levels of urban extension due to their being insufficient brownfield land available. A greater proportion of development would also be seen in the large villages and this could also lead to a number of village extensions. This will lead to impacts on the landscape in these areas.</p> <p>Protection of the district's landscapes is considered a key priority and mitigation will be put in place through design and landscaping requirements. The landscape policy will work in combination with other policies to achieve this aim.</p> <p>There may be a small amount of impact on the townscapes through development but the key characteristics of the towns and villages will be protected by the Design policy.</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p>	<p>Large scale development will inevitably put pressure on natural resources, water quality; air quality etc. The level of potential impact cannot be quantified at this stage until the level of development in each location is determined. However, the Council will expect development, to minimise impact on natural resources or pollution.</p>	<p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot</p>	<p>The inland flood risk policy does not support housing development in areas of high flood risk and in seeking sites in the five main towns and large villages the Council would</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>

<p>be avoided.</p> <p>5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.</p>	<p>look outside those flood risk areas identified.</p> <p>By identifying the role of settlements, the Council can start to see how settlements relate to each other. This forms a clear baseline from which we can guide new growth based on capacity to provide and sustain a pattern of viable communities as set out. The five inland towns and large villages provide a range of higher order services and facilities that because of economies of scale cannot, reasonably be expected in other settlements.</p> <p>This policy does not itself promote economic growth but it will increase a town or large village's vitality and viability and support and enhance employment opportunities and because each settlement serves a wider hinterland they will draw in rural populations to use the services and employment provided in the towns and large villages.</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>
<p>6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.</p>	<p>Inevitably more Greenfield sites will have to be looked at for development because the District does not have many large brownfield sites within the existing main town and large village boundaries. The prioritisation of brown field land and minimisation of the loss of agricultural land falls within the remit of other policies within the plan but when sites are allocated, brownfield sites will be sequentially preferable.</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.</p>	<p>The policy requires growth to be placed in the five main towns and large villages where there are good levels of services and facilities, employment land and transport links. The nearness of the Strategic road network, which also provides primary bus routes, to these settlements is key to ensuring there remains accessibility to wider</p>	<p><b>√/X</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>

	key services and facilities.							
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	On the negative side, having no growth in any of the other settlements could mean more vehicle journeys between settlements as smaller settlements no longer expand.	None	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The scale of growth via this policy will require urban extensions. This will enable more comprehensive design and layout of those new developments, especially in the towns, to include the elements that create safe and vibrant communities, such as local shopping and services and facilities. Larger sites in the large villages will enable more opportunities to support this objective through new design and layout. Work by the Council has shown that there has been no clear correlation between the amount of growth in settlements and their ability to retain services and facilities.		√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	On balance, the impact is a negative overall. Although local need in the towns and large villages will be met, placing all the growth into the five main inland towns and large villages will leave housing need to be met in other settlements only by the two exception policies. Affordable housing funding mechanisms now will mean very little housing being developed in medium and small settlements and general market housing needs will also not be met. This could also push up house prices in those parts of the District, thus increasing the affordability gap between housing costs and wages in the more rural parts of the District.		X	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
11. Increase energy	Appropriate sustainable design and		0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A

<p>efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.</p>	<p>construction will be required, but this option itself does not secure that.</p>					
<p>12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"</p>	<p>Economies of scale mean that improved health facilities can be delivered in the towns, along with facilities in connection with healthy lifestyles, such as green infrastructure and sport and recreation opportunities, in the five main towns and large villages.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.</p>	<p>Focusing development in the five towns and the larger villages will reduce the need to travel by private car, provide greater opportunities for access to services by sustainable means of travel. It will also ensure that growth can avoid areas of high flood risk, particularly along the coast of the District, and enable comprehensive use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>Summary :</p> <p>The previous Sustainability Appraisal considered four options. There were positive and negative outcomes for all four options; however, Options 1 (Concentrate Growth in the Five Inland Towns) and Option 4 (Dispersed pattern of growth including the small villages) were considered less sustainable options on balance (see previous assessment). Options 2 and 3 performed similarly against the objectives, although not necessarily gaining the same outcomes against the same objectives. These two options therefore need to be considered in more detail to establish which one would be pursued through the final Core Strategy. This work did not form part of the Sustainability Appraisal. However, the study looked at the capacity of available sites in each of the large and medium villages and, where there was a shortfall, the impacts of additional development if more land needed to be sourced. This showed a significant number of medium villages where there would be significant issues in accommodating the amount of development needed.</p>						

## Policy 2A – Housing in Medium and Small Villages

### Policy Title: HOUSING IN MEDIUM AND SMALL VILLAGES – New Policy

#### Any Assumptions:

- Housing will only come forward on the brownfield element of a vacant site.
- Alternative uses for the site and possibility for conversion have been fully explored before being given consideration for new housing.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	Sites are likely to have stood vacant for some time prior to coming forward for consideration for housing. There is a possibility that, in this time, sites may have become a refuge for biodiversity, including protected species such as bats. This will need to be explored as part of the consideration of the development proposals. As this will be assessed on a site by site basis, it is unclear at this stage what the impact will be, although it is not considered to be significant.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The sites coming forward through this policy will be brownfield sites within villages. The opportunity to find new uses for these sites may prevent the falling into disrepair and spoiling local townscape. As the sites will be within villages, it is unlikely that they will have a negative impact on the wider landscape.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The reuse of land will go a small way to preventing the loss of greenfield land elsewhere.	√	Low	Local	Temporary	Long Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	None - Sites will still have to comply with other policies in the plan on flood risk, but the policy has no direct effect itself.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term



5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The policy does seek a community, economic or leisure use for these sites before considering housing and so is seeking to retain this type of development, where possible.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The primary purpose of the policy is to seek alternative uses for previously used land.	√√	High	Local	Permanent	Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	Development arising through this policy will be located in villages. However, policy is specifically for the medium and small villages and these do not, generally, possess many services and facilities. Also, the limited brownfield sites in the District are normally small in scale so are not likely to add to green infrastructure.	✗	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None- This policy would need to be used in conjunction with the design policy, which includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred.	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The policy will provide opportunities for new development in the smaller communities in the District.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	In providing for development within the smaller communities, this may meet some locally generated need.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	None – other policies of the plan address this issue.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy	This will depend on the size of the sites coming forward and their ability to provide green infrastructure. It is likely, given the	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

lifestyles"	size of the settlements, that most of these sites will be small. There may be opportunities, as sites are within villages, to access facilities already provided and to walk to services in the community.					
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	Reusing previously developed land will provide some benefits in respect of climate change; reduce the demand for the finite resource of land. However, as this policy allows development in the medium and small villages, which generally do not possess many services and facilities, occupants are likely to have to use the private car to meet most of their day to day needs.	<b>X</b>	low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
<p>Summary :</p> <p>Reusing previously developed land will provide some benefits in respect of climate change; reducing the demand for the finite resource of land and will go a small way to preventing the loss of greenfield land elsewhere. . However, as this policy allows development in the medium and small villages, which generally do not possess many services and facilities, occupants are likely to have to use the private car to meet most of their day to day needs which will have a negative impact on climate change. Sites are likely to have stood vacant for some time prior to coming forward for consideration for housing. There is a possibility that, in this time, sites may have become a refuge for biodiversity, including protected species such as bats. This will need to be explored as part of the consideration of the development proposals. As this will be assessed on a site by site basis, it is unclear at this stage what the impact will be, although it is not considered to be significant. The sites coming forward through this policy will be brownfield sites within villages. The opportunity to find new uses for these sites may prevent the falling into disrepair and spoiling local townscape. As the sites will be within villages, it is unlikely that they will have a negative impact on the wider landscape. The policy does seek a community, economic or leisure use for these sites before considering housing and so is seeking to retain economic use, where possible. Development arising through this policy will be located in villages, however, the policy is specifically for the medium and small villages and these do not, generally, possess many services and facilities, so this will not increase accessibility to such services. The policy will provide opportunities for new development in the smaller communities in the District; this may meet some locally generated need.</p>						



## Policy 2a

### Policy Title: Neighbourhood Planning

#### Any Assumptions:

- The Council has a duty to advise and support local groups preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- The NDP will in general conformity with national planning guidance and the Local Plan.
- The NDP will be setting out policies for the development and use of land. The NDP will subject to an assessment which shows how it helps to deliver sustainable development.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- A few minor amendments for clarity. Does not affect the sustainability appraisal.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	None - Policy SP2a does not impact on biodiversity.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	None - Policy SP2a does not impact on landscape.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	None - Policy SP2a does not impact on natural resources	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	None - Policy SP2a does not impact on flood risk	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	None - Policy SP2a does not impact on economic growth.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss	None - SP2a does not impact on use of previously developed agricultural land.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.									
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	None – SP2a does not impact on access to services and facilities.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None- SP2a does not impact on reuse and recycling.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	Indirectly, the policy supports vibrant communities as it supports the community group in preparing the NDP.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	None – SP2a does not impact on local housing need.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	None – SP2a does not impact on energy efficiency or sustainable design and construction.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for “healthy lifestyles”	None – SP2a does not impact on healthy lifestyles and facilities for such.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	None – SP2a does not impact on this issue.	○	low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			

Summary :

This policy itself directly affects very little in the sustainability appraisal as it sets out more a statement of the Council’s support for and approach to NDPs. The NDPs themselves will have more direct impact on the SA objectives. While the Council will advise the groups preparing NDPs accordingly, so that their plans help to deliver sustainable development, the Council does not directly enable this. The only positive outcome against the SA objectives is for vibrant communities.

## Strategic Policy 3 – AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### Policy Title: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Any Assumptions:

The Council needs to support a range of choices in the delivery of affordable housing and given the rural nature of East Lindsey; it must support rural affordable housing.

As at the 30th September 2011, there were 7614 households on the Councils Housing Register. Whilst housing registers provide valuable information on the current need for affordable housing, particularly in relation to specific locations, they are not normally considered good tools for strategic analysis of need. This analysis is carried out through a Strategic Housing Market Assessment. The Councils assessment has calculated that the social rented sector should provide 38% of the total housing provision in the District. What is apparent from both sources of information that need for affordable and low cost housing in the District constitutes a significant part of demand.

#### Change Made to Policy following 2012/13 consultation

- The new policy sets the threshold for the requirement for affordable housing at sites for 5 dwellings and a developer contribution of 30%.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- A few minor amendments for clarity. Does not affect the sustainability appraisal.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The draft SA identified that other policies of the plan deal specifically with biodiversity. The council is unlikely to support housing on sites with protected species on and only where adequate mitigation can be provided. However, until it is known where the sites will come forward, the impact on biodiversity cannot be quantified. Nothing in the policy has changed this assessment.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The draft SA identified that the development of affordable housing will have some landscape impact but this is difficult to quantify without knowing where sites will come forward. There are other policies that address landscape impacts. The council is unlikely to support housing if it negatively affects the districts sensitive landscapes including the Lincolnshire AONB.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

	<p>There may be some minor impact on the townscapes and historic environment but, the design policy will compliment the affordable housing policy and good design will mitigate against any effects. There are no additional impacts as a result of the changes to the policy.</p>				
<p>3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p>	<p>The SA identified that development of affordable housing has the potential to impact on natural resources, as any other development would. The policy on design includes sustainable development matters. Water is a valued and scarce resource in the District. Development that will unacceptably deplete water resources or pose a risk to the quality of underlying groundwater will not be supported. Neither will development located around water sources be supported unless it includes adequate measures for their protection from pollution. This is to prevent any contamination of the public water supply and to avoid having to deal with the consequences of water pollution. May be some temporary effects during construction.</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Temporary</p>
<p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.</p>	<p>The policy itself does not impact on flood risk; it is when the policy is sought to be applied through the coastal policy and in areas of inland flood risk that there is potential for conflict. The previous SA identified that the outcomes of the policy are uncertain at present, as the amount and location of development is currently unknown. Where there is development of affordable housing in areas of flood risk this is housing for an existing local need and passes the sequential and exceptions test as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Flood mitigation would still have</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>

	to be undertaken and flood risk should not be made worse by the development in surrounding areas. There are no changes emerging from the revised policy.								
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	None – This policy concerns housing not economic growth.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	None - The design policy advocates the prioritisation of brown field land for development.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The policy is seeking affordable housing contributions in the towns, large and medium villages where there is access to services and facilities, although the amount will vary depending on the place in the settlement pattern.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None- This policy would need to be used in conjunction with the design policy, which includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred.	o	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term			
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	Affordable housing is for those that cannot access normal open market housing. It allows a wide variety of the community to access good quality housing and it also provides a vehicle for those who wish to stay in their communities but may not be able to afford to. This provides for inclusive communities and can aid their vibrancy.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	This policy sets the requirements for developers in meeting affordable housing need. This policy is not just aimed at those on low incomes but on all sections of the community.	✓✓	High	Local	Permanent	Long term			
11. Increase energy	Registered providers have to include energy	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long			

efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	efficiency measures in their construction of housing it is connected to their funding. The design policy requires that development includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred.						Term
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	None directly, although the policy does ensure affordable housing is available to help those who may be living in substandard accommodation or living conditions, or who are homeless. Providing good quality affordable housing can improve the health and well being of people.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	This issue is predominantly dealt with through other policies of the Plan, although requiring development to be in towns, large and medium villages will mean less need to travel to access services, although this will not be so strong in relation to medium villages which have a smaller range of facilities.	○	low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	

Summary :

Given the high need for affordable housing across the district, it is important to have a policy that requires the delivery of affordable housing. The policy "Delivering Affordable Housing" is aimed at providing affordable homes, predominantly on sites for full market housing. These homes will come forward alongside market housing and so will be in locations deemed, through the settlement proposals document, to be suitable for housing. However, this does not apply to medium villages where significant market will not be promoted.

Overall, there are a number of positive impacts on the objectives and only one negative impact as a result of possible building in flood risk areas. To a degree, this impact could be identified as uncertain, as it is not yet known exactly where sites will emerge. However, as some of the areas of greatest need appear along the Coast, in the flood risk area, it is likely that there will be a degree of conflict to be addressed. Development in areas of flood risk will be subject to the sequential and exceptions tests, through the appropriate policies, and will require mitigation if it passes. Every effort has therefore been made to mitigate the impact, while still allowing development in the District's highest areas of need. There are a number of other issues, such as biodiversity, landscape quality etc, where development of affordable housing may have an impact but this cannot be quantified until such time as the settlement proposals considers site selection or planning applications are received. However, other policies of the plan deal with these issues specifically and will be used to mitigate potential impact.



## Strategic Policies 4 and 5 – AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### Policy Title: AFFORDABLE HOUSING – EXCEPTIONS SITES AND SINGLE PLOT EXCEPTIONS

Any Assumptions:

The Council needs to support a range of choices in the delivery of affordable housing and given the rural nature of East Lindsey; it must support rural affordable housing.

As at the 30th September 2011, there were 7614 households on the Councils Housing Register. Whilst housing registers provide valuable information on the current need for affordable housing, particularly in relation to specific locations, they are not normally considered good tools for strategic analysis of need. This analysis is carried out through a Strategic Housing Market Assessment. The Councils assessment has calculated that the social rented sector should provide 38% of the total housing provision in the District. What is apparent from both sources of information that need for affordable and low cost housing in the District constitutes a significant part of demand.

#### Change Made to Policy following 2011/2/13 consultation

- o No change to policy 4;
- o Policy 5 changed to incorporate some of the broad criteria from the Single Plot exceptions SPD to enable a more robust policy framework within the Core strategy.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- o Policy SP4 - Large villages have been removed from the policy as permissions alongside these villages would be granted under SP
- o Policy SP5 – Towns and Medium Villages have been added into the policy, along with the percentage resale limit – which has been increased from 60 – 80%.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The draft SA identified that other policies of the plan deal specifically with biodiversity The council is unlikely to support housing on sites with protected species on, or protected habitats, and only where adequate mitigation can be provided. However, until it is known where the sites will come forward, the impact on biodiversity cannot be quantified. Nothing in the policy has changed this assessment.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The draft SA identified that the development of affordable housing will have some landscape impact but this is difficult to quantify without knowing where sites will come forward. There are other policies that	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

	<p>address landscape impacts. The council is unlikely to support housing if it negatively affects the districts sensitive landscapes including the Lincolnshire AONB.</p> <p>There may be some minor impact on the townscapes and historic environment but, the design policy will compliment the affordable housing policy and good design will mitigate against any effects. There are no additional impacts as a result of the changes to the policy.</p>					
<p>3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p>	<p>The SA identified that development of affordable housing has the potential to impact on natural resources, as any other development would. The policy on design includes sustainable development matters. Water is a valued and scarce resource in the District. Development that will unacceptably deplete water resources or pose a risk to the quality of underlying groundwater will not be supported. Neither will development located around water sources be supported unless it includes adequate measures for their protection from pollution. This is to prevent any contamination of the public water supply and to avoid having to deal with the consequences of water pollution. May be some temporary effects during construction.</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Temporary</p>	<p>Short Term</p>
<p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.</p>	<p>The policy itself does not have impact on flood risk; it is when the policy is sought to be applied through the coastal policy and in areas of inland flood risk that there is potential for conflict. The previous SA identified that the outcomes of the policy are uncertain at present, as the amount and location of development is currently unknown. Where there is development of affordable housing in areas of flood risk this</p>	<p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>



	is housing for an existing local need and passes the sequential and exceptions test as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Flood mitigation would still have to be undertaken and flood risk should not be made worse by the development in surrounding areas. There are no changes emerging from the revised policy.							
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	None – This policy concerns housing not economic growth.	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	None - The design policy advocates the prioritisation of brown field land for development.	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	East Lindsey is predominantly rural with many small communities. Policies 3 and 4 providing a policy framework for local needs housing in the range of East Lindsey communities, including small villages which do not have a range of services and facilities. Affordable housing is a priority for the Council – if there is no evidence of need then affordable housing will not be permitted. The exceptions policies allow for development where there is a proven local need or connection and for such development. As the location of development is unknown at this stage in the process, it is difficult to predict the impacts that would occur in terms of access to services.	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None- This policy would need to be used in conjunction with the design policy, which includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred.	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term			
9. Support inclusive, safe	The draft SA identified that affordable	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long	✓		

and vibrant communities.	housing is for those that cannot access normal open market housing. This allows more of the community to access good quality housing and it also provides a mechanism for those who wish to stay in their communities but may not be able to afford to. This provides for inclusive communities and can aid their vibrancy.						Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policies include a choice of approaches for the development of affordable housing to meet identified local need, including a self-help policy in the single plot exceptions section. This policy is not just aimed at those on low incomes but on all sections of the community including those that have the ability to help themselves.	√√	High	Local	Permanent	Long term	
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	Registered providers have to include energy efficiency measures in their construction of housing it is connected to their funding. The design policy requires that development includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	None directly, although the policy does ensure affordable housing is available to help those who may be living in substandard accommodation or living conditions, or who are homeless. Providing good quality affordable housing can improve the health and well being of people.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	This issue is predominantly dealt with through other policies of the Plan. There is uncertainty as to where development will come forward under this policy. This may include villages with very few community facilities, meaning people have to travel to access services and facilities and in an area, with limited access to public transport, this will frequently be by use of the private car.	?	low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	

Summary :

Given the high need for affordable housing across the district, it is important to include policies that offer the maximum opportunities and the widest choice for its delivery, including a choice for those that can help themselves. The other two exceptions policies will come forward as independent planning applications. While there location will be judged in accordance with these policies, it will also have to comply with other parts of the plan that may influence sites selection, such as biodiversity, landscape or flood risk.

Overall, there are a number of positive impacts on the objectives and only one negative impact as a result of possible building in flood risk areas. To a degree, this impact could be identified as uncertain, as it is not known exactly where these sites will emerge yet. However, as some of the areas of greatest need appear along the Coast, in the flood risk area, it is likely that there will be a degree of conflict to be addressed. Development in areas of flood risk will be subject to the sequential and exceptions tests, through the appropriate policies, and will require mitigation if it passes. Every effort has therefore been made to mitigate the impact, while still allowing development in the District's highest areas of need. There are a number of other issues, such as biodiversity, landscape quality etc, where development of affordable housing may have an impact but this cannot be quantified until such time as planning applications area received for exception sites. However, other policies of the plan deal with these issues specifically and will be used to mitigate potential impact. Access to services and facilities cannot be quantified at this time, as it is not known where the plots will come forward and the policy extends to small villages where there is not the range of services and facilities to support development.

## Strategic Policy 6 – DESIGN

<b>Policy Title: Design</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
Good sustainable design will be given a high priority in the District.						
To try and facilitate good design all planning applications other than minor (as set out in the policy) must be accompanied by a completed place making check list.						
<b>Change Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A new discrete policy has been introduced on the Historic Environment, following representations (see below).</li> <li>o Use of the place making check list has been refined to apply to less development types.</li> <li>o Add reference to reducing demand for finite resources.</li> <li>o Add reference to design and flood risk mitigation.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes made to the Policy following 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Additional supporting text added on impacts of design on health, ground water protection zones and potential for brownfield land hosting biodiversity (and this has been included in the policy).</li> <li>o Reference to protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land had been added to the policy.</li> <li>o A landscape criteria has been added to the Place Making Checklist along with text in the accompanying guide.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified that, although the policy itself does not itself refer to biodiversity, the text refers to the role that landscaping can have in providing habitats for wildlife. The Biodiversity policy will work in combination with the design policy and will protect local, national and internationally protected sites and protected species. The addition of reference to the potential for biodiversity on brownfield sites in both the policy and the text has strengthened this.	√	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic	The previous sustainability appraisal noted that protection of the districts' landscapes is considered a key priority and it is unlikely that development which adversely affects	√	High	Local	Permanent	Long term



be avoided.									
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	Good design that improves the surroundings where people live, work and take their leisure will by default improve the economy of an area and encourage economic growth.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Medium Term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	There are settlements in the District which do not have any brownfield land and inevitably they will have to seek development on greenfield sites.  Previous versions of the Plan had a mixed score for this criteria as the policy did not specifically refer to protection the best and most versatile agricultural land. However, this has now been added so the policy receives a positive outcome.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The previous appraisal identified the positive link between the policy advocating provision of open space within new development and safe access to services and facilities including by foot and cycle. Broader issues of access to services are dealt with through the policies on location of development.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	The previous appraisal identified that the policy advocates development that includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred and this has been bolstered by changes following the consultation.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	High quality sustainable design and planning to "design out crime" will assist in providing inclusive, safe and vibrant communities. This was identified as a positive connection in the sustainability appraisal.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	Other policies of the plan deal specifically with this issue. However, design is an important consideration in housing development, including affordable homes.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			

<p>11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.</p>	<p>The place making check list incorporates a section which asks if development incorporates sustainable features and/or renewables, although this is not directly referred to in the policy.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>
<p>12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"</p>	<p>The policy advocates housing development that creates a positive living environment by integrating landscaping and open space with the built development. It is important that the approach to landscaping and open space reflects the diversity of East Lindsey, incorporating appropriate space for amenity landscaping, recreation and circulation. The policy also deals with designing out crime, as fear of crime can have a negative impact on people's health and well being. The text of the policy also seeks to separate people from potential hazardous installations, which can have an effect on people's health. The changes following the 2016 consultation have added text on the potential impacts of design on health.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>
<p>13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.</p>	<p>Where there is a choice, development sites should be selected where they would generate fewest car movements and be within comfortable walking distance of essential facilities. The use of brownfield sites within existing settlements should always be given priority over more distant greenfield sites. Development that includes measures to regenerate, recycle, re-use or reduce the demand for, finite resources will be preferred. Water is a valued and scarce resource in the District. The previous sustainability appraisal identified this positive connection and the additional changes following the 2016 consultation add to this.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>



	Reference for the need for design incorporating flood mitigation has also now been added.					
<p>Summary :</p> <p>There a number of positive impacts emerging from this policy and no negative ones. The design policy working in conjunction with most of the other policies within the plan will assist in providing safe, inclusive communities in the District. The policy text seeks to address the issues of light pollution, recycling, protection of water resources etc, although this could be strengthened by a criterion within the policy itself that draws these paragraphs together and increases their prominence in the policy. Reference to natural resources, has been added to the policy and text following the consultation. The prioritisation of brownfield land has now been given a direct reference in the policy, along with the need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land. This is an important issues for a rural area, where agricultural is identified as one of the key employers.</p> <p>Amendments to the policy and text have strengthened existing positive impacts in relation to the protection of biodiversity, the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment; protecting natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution; and prioritising the use of brownfield land and protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p>						



## Strategic Policy 7 – HISTOIC ENVIRONMENT

<b>Policy Title: Historic Environment</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o None</li> <li>o <b>New Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b> Strengthening the protection of heritage assets, including those at risk.</li> <li>o Add protection for non-designated heritage assets.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes made to the policy after 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Supporting text added to highlight the role of the Historic Environment Record.</li> <li>o Some minor changes to the text for clarity. No change to the policy.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The policy refers to historic woodland of the District which will play a role in the biodiversity of the District.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The key aim of the policy is to protect the historic townscape and landscape quality of the area through individual buildings and designated areas within the District. The role of the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB is also referred to.	√√	High	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	Any woodlands that are covered by this policy will help to protect natural resources.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Flood risk is covered by other policies, although any flood defences built to mitigate development would be required to comply with this policy. Some of the District's historic market towns are subject to flood risk and it is uncertain how new flood measures would impact on historic character.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The historic character of the District enhances the surroundings where people live, work and take their leisure will by default improve the economy of an area and encourage economic growth and the historic market towns attract visitors because they have something different to offer to other shopping centres.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy seeks appropriate reuse of historic buildings which is part of the re-use of previously developed land and minimising the need for greenfield development.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	No direct link between the policy and objective.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	No direct link between the policy and objective unless the reuse of buildings is considered as part of this objective.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	A good quality environment with well used buildings and attractive spaces can help people feel safe in their environment.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	There is no direct link between the policy and objective, unless buildings are reused for local housing schemes.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	The re-use of buildings can contribute to sustainable development by reducing the need for additional building. Many of the building materials in historic buildings (e.g. lime mortar, seasoned wood which lasts for a long time and can be repaired) also contribute to sustainable operation of buildings.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

lifestyles” 13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
<p>Summary :</p> <p>The policy has a number of positive outcomes as it seeks to improve environmental quality through the historic environment of the District, which is an important component of the character of East Lindsey. Other outcomes are all neutral. The only uncertain where there may be some tension between flood mitigation, either as part of development or as stand alone projects, and the impact on the historic environment. However, this will vary between circumstances and so is identified as an uncertainty.</p>						

## Strategic Policy 8 – GYPSIES, TRAVELLERS AND SHOW PEOPLE

### Policy Title: Gypsies, Travellers and Show People

#### Any Assumptions:

- The Council needs to make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning
- The Council needs to ensure that it works collaboratively, to develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites – which it will do through the Settlement Proposals DPD.
- The Council needs to ensure that its local plan and policies with regard to Gypsies, Travellers and Show People are fair, realistic and inclusive
- To increase the number of traveller sites, if there is a need, in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply
- To enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure

#### Change Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation

- Targets have been introduced for the number of pitches required;
- A paragraph has been introduced to encourage collaboration between the settled and travelling community in designing new sites;
- The removal of the 3 pitch criteria, as it is considered inconsistent with limitations for the settled community;
- Clearer clarification on what is meant by close, near, accessible etc.

#### Changes made to policy following 2016 consultation

- Minor changes for clarity. Do not affect sustainability appraisal.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The draft SA identified that other policies of the plan deal specifically with biodiversity and will be taken into account at an application stage or allocation stage. No change following amendments to policy.	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The draft SA identified other policies of the plan that deal more specifically with this issue, however, this policy does include criteria relating to the integration of development into its surroundings and character of the area. No change as a result of amendments.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The draft SA identified other policies of the plan that deal more specifically with these issues. No change as a result of amendments.	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium

4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	It is uncertain at the moment where the sites are going to emerge. The policy does not support permanent sites in areas of high flood risk in line with it policy regarding living in other types of caravan. No change as a result of amendments.	?	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The draft SA noted that the policy supports sites linked with business use in towns, large and medium villages as Gypsies, Travellers and Show People operate their businesses from their sites (subject to criteria) in the same way that the settled community do, which can assist with the growth of the rural economy. No change as a result of the policy amendments.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy does not prioritise the reuse of previously developed land because it supports new sites close to or alongside towns, large and medium villages – the likelihood of there being brownfield land for such sites available is low. However, these are the preferred locations for these communities and this should not be a barrier to providing accommodation for these minority groups. No change as a result of the policy amendments.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The draft SA highlighted the policy reference to easy safe access to services and facilities including health and education and to reduce travel in carrying out businesses. The policy and text have been amended to provide clarification on what is meant by close, near, accessible etc. This should help to strengthen this link.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	The draft SA identifies that the policy supports development where there are on-site services for the provision of water, power, drainage, sewage disposal and refuse/waste disposal. However, this will not	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

	necessarily increase recycling rates and minimise waste production. No change as a result of the amendments.							
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	<p>The draft SA identified positive links between the policy and this objective as it supports development that integrates into its surroundings and assists in the overall integration of both the travellers and the settled community. The addition of a paragraph that encourages the settled and travelling communities working together on the design of new sites is another way have helping create inclusive communities.</p> <p>Flood risk (safe communities) is also dealt with through the policy but there have been no amendments to the policy in respect of this and so no change to the assessment.</p>	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	<p>The draft SA identified the role of this policy in meeting housing need supporting those residents of the District who choose to live in a traditional nomadic way other than bricks and mortar housing to find suitable sites. There has been no change following the amendment to the policy.</p>	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	<p>The draft SA identified that it is difficult to have an energy efficient caravan or mobile home, therefore identified the impact as negative, but sites must be provided with on-site services for the provision of water, power, drainage, sewage disposal and refuse/waste disposal. There has been no change as a result of the amendments to the policy.</p>	X	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	<p>The draft SA identifies that this policy supports sites in or within safe walking distance of towns, large and medium settlements facilities, which would include any health and education facilities, but it is</p>	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		

	not intended to provide the facilities themselves, so the impact is neutral. There are no changes as a result of the amendments to the policy.					
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	The draft SA identified a neutral impact as the policy does not support traveller sites in areas of flood risk, excepting transit sites which would be subject to a restricted occupancy period but does not touch on climate change in other ways. There is no change as a result of the amendments to the policy.	0	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term

**Summary :**

The policy and text have been amended to provide clarification on what is meant by close, near, accessible etc. This should help to strengthen this link between the policy and SA objective 7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.

The addition of a paragraph that encourages the settled and travelling communities working together on the design of new sites is another way have helping create inclusive communities and will strengthen the link between this policy and SA objective 9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.

The draft SA identified that it is difficult to have an energy efficient caravan or mobile home, therefore identified the impact as negative in respect of SA objective 11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments. The amendments to the policy have not changed this, due to the inherent nature of the type of development, and so the SA still identifies this as a negative impact.



## Strategic Policy 9 – INLAND EMPLOYMENT

<b>Policy Title: INLAND EMPLOYMENT</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
The Council wants a strong and diverse inland economy built on the strengths of its traditional industries but also supporting new economic opportunities. There should be growing employment sites in and alongside towns and large villages. A rural economy that is diverse and contributes to sustaining villages or networks of villages A skilled workforce that is able to meet the needs of an expanding economy, in a District that has good access to modern communications.						
<b>Change Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Added reference to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and character of the area in assessing proposals;</li> <li>o Add more guidance on farm diversification proposals.</li> </ul> <b>Changes made to the Policy following 2016 consultation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Rewording the policy to make it clearer where development will be supported and more clarity on the allocation of land.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified the potential for increased development in rural parts of the District impact on biodiversity. The reference to the environmental constraints of the location for rural businesses has been removed from the policy. Also, the text refers to protected species. However, the document should be read as a whole and the biodiversity policy deals specifically with these issues. The changes made to the policy do not affect this assessment.	?	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The inland employment policy is not site specific. Increased development in rural parts of the District has the potential to have an impact on the landscape. The reference in the policy to the environmental constraints of the site has been removed. However, the text refers to high quality landscapers in respect of development in the more rural parts of the	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term



	<p>District. The text includes specific reference to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB, the character of local areas and, in the case of the re-use of buildings, protection of heritage assets. Despite these changes, the overall impact of the policy still has to be considered unknown as the location the development will come forward is unknown. The extensions to the industrial land provision in the towns may also have landscape impacts but these will need to be assessed on a site by site basis and when the detailed permissions are given for their development. There may be a small amount of impact on the townscapes through development but the key characteristics of the towns and villages will be protected by the Design policy.</p> <p>The landscape policy will work in combination with the inland employment policy to achieve this aim.</p>		Low	Local	Temporary	Long Term
<p>3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p>	<p>These issues are cross cutting and always important for any development. They are dealt with through the design policy. No change.</p>	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
<p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.</p>	<p>Although the Council will expect inland employment development to mitigate against flood risk and not to make flood risk worse in surrounding areas, this is addressed through other policies of the Plan. No change.</p>	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
<p>5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.</p>	<p>The policy supports development that supports growth and diversification of the economy; the rural economy; and sustainable businesses including home working. The previous sustainability appraisal identified this as a significant positive impact. The changes to the policy have not altered this.</p>	√	High	Local	Permanent	Long term

6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	This is a cross cutting issue. The design policy is the primary policy and this will work in conjunction with the inland employment policy. There are settlements in the District which do not have any brownfield land, in these cases, inevitably development will take place on greenfield sites. The changes to the policy do not alter this.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The policy is seeking to encourage development within identified villages to offset the rurality of the District. It will work with other policy to improve accessibility to services and facilities.  East Lindsey is a large rural district and therefore the use of the car is extremely difficult to reduce. The inland employment policy supports working from home and this will assist in reducing vehicle journeys.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	There is some potential for re-use of buildings, which is potentially more environmentally sound. The changes to the policy will not affect this.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified the link between the aim of the policy, to bring new and enhance economic development to communities and this objective. The changes to the policy will not affect this.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Medium Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	None	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	Energy efficiency and sustainable design is dealt with through the design policy. The changes to the policy will not affect this.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and	No direct impact.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A

<p>infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"</p> <p>13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.</p>	<p>The previous sustainability appraisal identified the link between the inland employment policy, with its support for new communication technologies and opportunities for an increase in remote working, and the likely growth in home working, which will reduce the need to travel. The Council is supporting the County Council in improving broadband in the District and will support businesses in all the named settlements that take advantages of these working practices including mixed-use development (shared employment/residential development). The changes to the policy don't affect this.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>Summary :</p> <p>The previous sustainability appraisal identified a number of positive impacts in respect of viable and diverse economic growth; and supporting inclusive and vibrant communities. It can also help in positively planning for climate change by supporting home working and the use of new technologies this should reduce the number of vehicle journeys and assist with the sustainability of settlements. Uncertainty of impacts centres on biodiversity and landscape as there is no locational aspect to the policy beyond the towns where additional employment land is needed. The previous changes to the supporting text to the policy strengthen the link in respect of protecting and enhancing the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment however, the reference to environmental constraints of a rural site have been removed. It is considered that the positive wording gains and the loss of the general reference in the policy balance each other out.</p>						

## Strategic Policy 10 – TOWN/VILLAGE CENTRES AND SHOPPING

<b>Policy Title: Town / Village Centres and Shopping</b>						
Any Assumptions: There will be continued pressure for out of town centre development that will undermine their role. Continued population growth will underpin the expansion of town centres, however there may be an impact from electronic shopping.						
<b>Change Made to the Policy following the 2012/13 consultation</b>						
A substantial number of changes have been made to the explanatory text to improve clarity, these include:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A paragraph relating to the how town centres will be dealt with through the Settlement Proposals;</li> <li>○ Greater reference to the distinctiveness of the District's Town Centres;</li> <li>○ Reference to design;</li> <li>○ Opportunities for shared accommodation in villages, such as shops in pubs.</li> </ul>						
Changes have been made to the policy in respect of:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A new criterion on the sequential test for assessing applications;</li> <li>○ Retailing from other businesses;</li> <li>○ A new criterion on retailing from industrial estates;</li> <li>○ Further clarification on loss of village shops and the shared accommodation for village shops.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes to Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Deleted criteria relating to stores of 150sqm in towns and large villages, and its supporting text.</li> <li>○ Addition of cultural facilities to the policy.</li> <li>○ Changes to text to reflect change to retail offer in intervening period.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	No definable impact was identified previously and the amendments to the policy will not change this.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	Additional reference was added to the supporting text in respect of design. Although this has strengthened the links to the objectives the separate design policy will lead on this matter and so the degree of impact has not been changed.	<b>0</b>	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and	The draft SA identified that changing shopping trends may have influence pollution	<b>?</b>	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	levels depending on their nature. Amendments the policy have not changed this.							
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Balancing the issues of flood avoidance and mitigation needs against site availability and the need to maintain existing town centres was identified at the draft SA stage. The amendments to the policy have not changed this.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Local	Permanent	Long Term
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The positive connection between the policy and this objective were highlighted in the previous SA, which were strengthened by previous changes to the policy. Subsequent changes do not alter this assessment.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Local	Permanent	Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The draft SA identified as positive link as the majority of scenarios covered by the policy are likely to come forward within Town/village centres, or within existing buildings. The amendments do not change this.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Local	Permanent	Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	Aims to strengthen access to key services and reduce travel distances for the majority. Previous changes to the policy strengthened these links, especially through reference to the sequential approach. The current changes do not affect this.	✓	Low	District	Permanent	District	Permanent	Long Term
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None. No change.	o	Low	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	This objective relates to the fundamental aim of policy. The additional reference to cultural facilities to the policy will strengthen this. The policy seeks to acknowledge the importance of town centres to the community and to maintain their vibrancy.	✓✓	High	Local	Permanent	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policy does seek to support town centre housing, in appropriate circumstances, including over the shop accommodation in	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Local	Permanent	Long Term



## Strategic Policy 11 – WIDENING THE TOURISM AND LEISURE ECONOMY

<b>Policy Title: INLAND TOURISM</b>						
Any Assumptions: The Council will support tourism inland across a range of locations						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy after 2012/13 Consultation</b> The explanatory text has been amended by additions to:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Refer to the scale of development and the cumulative impact on the host community</li> <li>o Reference to the impact on the historic environment;</li> <li>o Reference to what is considered safe access.</li> </ul>						
The policy has been amended to:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Remove reference to “Promoting the Lincolnshire Wolds”;</li> <li>o Adding the requirement that development be “in close proximity to” specified settlements (rather than “Around”);</li> <li>o Refer to the scale of development, the cumulative impact on the host community and to the impact on the historic environment.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes to Policy following 2016 Consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Policy reordered to flow better.</li> <li>o Landscape, biodiversity and heritage assets have been added to the criteria on new tourist attractions.</li> <li>o The same environmental considerations have been added to the criteria on new caravans as has been used in the Coastal policy, for consistency.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas’ biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The policy has now been amended with reference to biodiversity in the criterion on new tourist attractions, new holiday accommodation and caravan sites.	√	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area’s landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The criterion to “promote the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)” was removed from the policy after the 2012/13 consultation, as it did not relate to land use and development. Landscape, or related references, and heritage assets have been added to the criterion on new tourist attractions, new holiday accommodation and caravan sites Previous additions to the policy in terms of scale and design of the	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term



	development will also help in this respect. The impact is therefore changed from negative to positive.							
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The draft SA identified the role of other policies in seeking to minimise impacts and possible temporary effects during construction. No change as a result of amendments	o	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term		
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Flood risk has been added to the criterion on new holiday accommodation. However, the issue of flood risk is largely dealt with via other discrete policies of the Plan.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term		
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The policy promotes quality tourism and leisure facilities and seeks to diversify the tourism economy and visitor facilities and provides additional employment opportunities. The changes to the policy will not affect this assessment.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term		
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	This policy does not refer to brownfield sites, this is dealt with through the design policy. The changes to the policy do not alter this.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The draft SA identified that the policy focuses new build accommodation on the District's towns, large and medium sized villages so aiming to enable access to local service on foot by visitors. Only in the case of conversion is the policy less restrictive. East Lindsey is a large rural district and use of the car is extremely difficult to reduce. The transport policy also addresses the issue of access and these policies should be read together. The inland tourism policy was amended to change "Around" to "adjoining" in its locational criteria and the text amended	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		



	arrive in the District.																														
<p>Summary :</p>																															
<p>The criterion to "promote the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)" was removed from the policy after the 2012/13 consultation, as it did not relate to land use and development. The impact on objective 2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment, has been changed to positive with the introduction of reference to landscape and related issues, along with the changes to the policy adding reference to design and the historic assets.</p>																															
<p>The changes to the policy and text with regard to locational criteria should help to strengthen the connection in respect of SA objective 7 "Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access" by placing stronger emphasis on safe routes for pedestrians.</p>																															
<p>The draft SA recorded a neutral impact between the policy and objective 9 "Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities". However, employment opportunities are part of a vibrant community and this policy aims to expand the leisure and tourism economy and so warrants a positive impact.</p>																															
<p>The draft SA recorded a neutral impact between the policy and objective 12 Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles". However, amongst the range of leisure and tourism proposals that may come forward as a result of this policy, there may be opportunities for new facilities for walking, cycling and exploring the countryside and so warrants a positive impact.</p>																															

## Strategic Policy 12 – INLAND FLOOD RISK

### Policy Title: INLAND FLOOD RISK

Any Assumptions:

The council will not support housing development in areas of high inland flood risk unless sites cannot be used for any other purpose and evidence has been supplied to support the case.

#### Changes Made to the Policy after 2012/13 Consultation

- o Greater reference to Sustainable Drainage Systems.
- o Minor alteration to the text for clarity.

#### Changes made to the Policy after 2016 Consultation

- o New criteria on surface water and foul water and treatment

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The draft SA identified the potential impact that new flood defences along river courses may have on biodiversity but there are uncertain at the moment. Other policies of the plan deal with this issue more specifically. The council is unlikely to support housing on sites with protected species on it or development that affects local, national or internationally protected sites. No change as a result of the consultation.	?	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	There may be some minor impact on the townscapes and historic environment if a site comes forward for development or new flood defence measures are put in place. The design and Historic Environment policies will compliment other policies of the plan to mitigate any effects. The draft SA identified this as a neutral impact but it is felt that the impact should be identified as uncertain as, although the council is unlikely to support development if it adversely affects the districts sensitive landscapes including the Lincolnshire AONB, priority for flood defence	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term

	measures may take priority and significant mitigation may be difficult in some circumstances.							
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	This policy only deals with the flood risk aspect of development; other policies will determine the overall suitability and other policies of the Plan deal with this issue. There may be some impact on natural resources from the building of new flood defences, although more likely are some temporary effects during construction. No change from draft SA.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	This policy allows for some types of development in flood risk areas. In the case of housing in particular circumstances. Although the policy seeks to balance the competing demands, there is still an overriding tension between the policy and the objective. No change from the draft SA.	X	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term		
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The draft SA identified the positive impacts on this objective of the policy seeking to allow business and commercial uses in flood risk areas where suitable mitigation can be applied. This could increase the likelihood of economic development coming forward as returns for housing development are not available.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy does refer to redevelopment sites and so there may be some development on previously developed land as a result of this policy but this is uncertain at the moment. This is included as a positive impact but there is some uncertainty about the impact.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The policy is not spatially specific; other policies of the plan will determine where development should be located.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		

8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None, other polices address this issue.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	There is a balance to be struck through the implementation of this policy in respect of this objective. By allowing development, the Council is seeking to promote economic development which can help achieve vibrant communities. However, has to be balanced with the fact that it allows, in certain circumstances, housing development which could be at odds with community safety. No change as a result of the consultation.	<b>X/√</b>	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policy allows for housing in certain circumstances and this will meet local housing need; but it is not a key driver of the policy. No change as a result of the consultation.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	Other policies of the plan deal with this issue.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	Development of this nature may come forward under this policy but it is not a key driver of the policy.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	This policy is seeking to plan for the effects of climate change in the shape of flood risk in the inland parts of the district. The policy has been strengthened by the introduction of greater reference to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS).	<b>√</b>	High	Local	Permanent	Long Term

Summary :

The previous Sustainability Appraisal identified the policy's need to balance the need for economic development and housing development to meet the future needs of its communities, with the presence of flood risk in a number of its towns and villages. The policy seeks to prioritise economic development in these areas and only allow housing in exceptional circumstances and, in all cases, only where appropriate mitigation can be put in place. As a result there are a number of positive impacts from this policy but there are also some uncertainties. On impact on natural resources, it is unclear what the impact will be at this stage, similarly, work on flood defences could have an impact on biodiversity if work is undertaken in river courses, but it may be that this can be mitigated. Also, the ability of the policy to prioritise the use of brownfield land is another uncertainty. In the case of supporting inclusive, safe and vibrant communities the impact has been recorded as a mixed positive and negative, due to the breadth of the objective; the policy can meet some parts but not others, although flood mitigation measures will help offset this. There have been significant changes to the appraisal as a result of the amendments emerging from the consultation.



## Strategic Policy 13 – COASTAL EAST LINDSEY

### Policy Title: THE COAST

Any Assumptions:

The coast is defined as the area covered by the Environment Agencies Coastal Flood Hazard Maps.

The Council sees that it must, in policy terms, achieve the following in order to support the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the coast:

- In order to ensure that the numbers of people at risk from flooding does not dramatically increase; strategic housing growth in the coastal zone would not be considered acceptable. That does not mean nil housing growth; it means growth should be restricted to that which would keep the existing population broadly stable.
- There should be no restriction on major housing development. It does not matter how large a site is, it is the mitigation measures taken against flood risk that are important.
- The Council need to ensure that housing for specified vulnerable or minority groups are catered for, particularly affordable housing.
- The Council need to ensure that the caravan occupancy period runs from **15th March to 31st October**. This is to ensure the continued vitality of this important industry in the coast.
- The Council must give a high priority to employment and tourism uses.
- The Council need to find a way that allows applicable development to pass the exceptions test. This particularly relates to the test around delivering wider community benefits.
- There is a need to support the Skegness and Mablethorpe Foreshores.
- Give support for the Coastal Country Park.
- Support new hotel and Bed and Breakfast accommodation in suitable, sustainable locations.
- Supports improvements to the flood defences and the creation of new defences.

The draft Coastal Policy takes on board all these key drivers.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation

- A number of minor changes for clarification.
- Redraft paragraph on exceptions test.
- Add paragraph on amount of employment land needed in coastal area.
- Add further criterion on rural coastal economy.
- Add protection for the open space between Chapel St Leonards and Ingoldmells and further clarification on caravan development elsewhere.

#### Changes made to the Policy following 2016 consultation

- Policy reordered to flow better.
- Brick built holiday accommodation removed from policy.
- Temporary opportunity for holiday development in areas not liable to flood in next 20 years.
- Remove zones in foreshore policy and add reference to dune habitats.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
<p>1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.</p>	<p>The coast contains some of the District's most highly protected natural areas. The draft SA identified that the policy is not spatially specific about there development is likely to come forward, and therefore, there is uncertainty at the moment about the impacts on biodiversity. The picture will become clearer at the settlement proposals stage, and the Habitats Regulations Assessment will help understanding of the situation with regard to the European protected sites. The Biodiversity policy will work in combination with the coastal policy and will protect local, national and internationally protected sites. However, the Council is supporting the coastal country park and the wild coast as an alternative tourist destination and these sensitive environments will need careful consideration. The proximity of the foreshore to protected sites has also been recognised by the inclusion of sensitive dune habitats in the foreshore elements of the policy.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long Term</p>
<p>2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.</p>	<p>The draft SA identified the potential for some minor impact on the townscapes and historic environment as a result of development or new flood defence measures but the key characteristics of the towns and villages will be protected by the Design policy.</p> <p>Protection of the district's rural and coastal landscapes is considered a key priority. The policy seeks to protect the area between Chapel St Leonards and Ingoldmells for the role this area plays in preventing the coalescence of settlements and for its contribution to the landscape in an otherwise</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>

	<p>intensively developed areas. This will have a positive impact on the objective. Elsewhere, at present, until the location and scale of such projects are known, it is difficult to judge the extent of any impact. However, the landscape policy will work in combination with the coastal policy to seek to mitigate any impact.</p>					
<p>3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.</p>	<p>These issues are cross cutting and are dealt with through the design policy. May be some temporary effects during construction. No change as a result of amendments. The protection of farmland between Chapel St Leonards and Ingoldmells would contribute positively to this policy but it is only one part of the coast, so the overall impact is neutral.</p>	<p><b>O</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Temporary</p>	<p>Short Term</p>
<p>4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.</p>	<p>The draft SA identified the impact from this policy as negative for this objective as, although the Council is adopting a policy of restricting housing growth along the coast in the spirit of the coastal study, development will be permitted. Any housing approved will have to fulfil the criteria set out in the coastal policy in that it should mitigate against flood risk, not only on the site itself but it should not make flood risk worse around the site.</p> <p>The removal of brick built accommodation has lessened the potential impact in respect of longer term occupation but this still does not change the overall assessment.</p> <p>In supporting further development in these high risk flood areas, the Sustainability Appraisal has to recognise that there is a tension here and a potential negative impact on this objective. However, the Council believes that it is seeking to achieve the best balance between supporting its existing</p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Local</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Long term</p>

	communities in the coastal area and recognising the flood risk issues that exist.  The policy is supporting improvements to the existing flood defences, the creation of new flood defences and infrastructure associated with emergency planning. The coastal study supported economic growth and the Council has taken this as its key driver for the coastal area.							
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The draft SA identified a positive connection here. Economic growth is the Councils key driver for the coastal area. It is in line with the spirit of the coastal study. The policy gives a high priority to development that extends and diversifies all-year round employment opportunities and contributes directly to the local economy.  The policy supports an occupancy period for caravans that take in both Easter and the October half term break, both of which are important for the continued economic buoyancy of this industry along the coast.  No change to SA as a result of the changes to the policy.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	Other policies prioritise the development of brownfield land.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The Coast contains two of the Districts towns and a number of large villages. The Council is, through this policy, seeking to improve service and facilities in these areas, including employment and green infrastructure, within the constraints of flood risk issues. The draft SA therefore identified a positive link. East	√/X	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term		

	<p>Lindsey is a large rural district and therefore the use of the car is extremely difficult to reduce. Locational elements of this policy will help to create the opportunity for alternative modes of transport to be used. The transport policy, which advocates locating development near to services and facilities and improving accessibility both in the design of buildings and accessibility around settlements, is also a consideration.</p>		Low	Local	N/A	N/A
<p>8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste. 9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.</p>	<p>None – other policies of the plan deal with this issue.</p> <p>The policy is aims to balance the needs of our communities along the coast with their location in the highest flood risk area. This balance is always going to be a difficult one to achieve and therefore the draft SA identified both positive and negative impacts. Through this policy, the Council is seeking to improve service and facilities in these areas, including employment, to create more vibrant and inclusive communities; meeting part of this objective. However, the fact that the coast contains some of the highest category areas of flood risk means that safety is a strong concern and there is an inherent tension there that the Council has sought to address through the policy.</p>	0	low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
<p>10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.</p>	<p>The draft SA identified a strong positive impact from the policy on this objective, which has not changed as a result of the consultation. Through this policy, housing for vulnerable groups including affordable housing has been removed from the housing restriction so the council still has an adequate opportunity to ensure these groups housing needs are met in the coastal area. The policy also ensures evidenced local need, due to the</p>	√	High	Local	Permanent	Medium Term



Summary :

The coastal policy is neutral or has a positive impact on many of the objectives set out in the appraisal in that it supports development that will enable continued sustainable growth of the coastal area. Housing is limited to that which maintains the present population at a broadly stable rate, but housing for vulnerable groups and affordable housing has been taken out of the restriction, reflecting the high need for this type of housing along the coast and the fact that many parts of it are in areas of deprivation. However, there are considered to be two negative impacts on the objectives. Objective 4 – Avoiding Flood Risk (where possible) and the safety element of Objective 9. The Council considers that it has struck a balance between the needs of communities and the concerns over flood risk issues. This balance is clearly demonstrated by the fact that a number of the impacts of the policy are also positive and these would then become negative if a more restrictive framework were put in place for the coast. There is some uncertainty over the impacts of the policy on biodiversity and landscape, as the location and volume of development being supported through this policy is not yet known. Protection through other policies of the plan is afforded to areas of landscape sensitivity and key protected areas of biodiversity importance, whilst still meeting the Councils key driver of supporting development that extends and diversifies all-year round employment and directly contributes to the local economy.

The changes introduced following both consultations are not considered to have substantially altered the overall principles of the policy and have therefore not affected the Sustainability Appraisal.



## Strategic Policy 14 – TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

<b>Policy Title: TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY</b>						
Any Assumptions: In urban locations pedestrian and cycle routes take priority over vehicular traffic. Smaller settlements will provide transport hubs for residents and local business.						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No significant changes:</li> <li>○ Minor rewording of criterion 1 of the policy to remove the emphasis on housing development and removal of words “as near as possible”.</li> <li>○ Criterion 2 of the policy has been reworded to indicate the level of development with which the Council would require an application to be accompanied by a transport statement and travel plan.</li> <li>○ Minor rewording of the supporting text to the Council’s approach of locating all supported development as near to any existing facilities as possible.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Although the policy has been redrafted this has not changed the approach of the policy, so the Sustainability Appraisal is unaffected.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas’ biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The previous appraisal suggested that the impact on biodiversity is uncertain as the policy does not indicate where development complying with the policy will come forward. The changes to the policy have not changed this. However, the Plan should be looked at as a whole and the Biodiversity policy will be used to protect local, national and internationally protected sites and species.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area’s landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The previous appraisal suggested that the impact on landscape is uncertain as there is no specific spatial element to the policy, so it is uncertain where development complying with the policy will come forward and no indication of the type of development that will come forward to predict the impact. Protection of the districts landscapes are considered a key priority, it is unlikely that development that adversely affects them will be supported. The transport policy will work	?	low	Local	Permanent	Long term

	in combination with the landscapes policy to achieve this aim.  There may be a small impact on townscapes through development but the key characteristics of the towns and villages will be protected by the Design policy.								
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	Reducing the need to travel and seeking alternative modes of transport may help reduce emissions and potential pollutants, thus helping maintain good air quality. However, this has to be balanced against the very rural nature of the district and the high dependency on the private car in terms of the degree of impact that can be made. Changes to the policy reinforce this but it does not change the outcome of the previous sustainability appraisal.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Other policies deal specifically with flood risk. In areas of flood risk the Council will expect development associated with transport infrastructure to mitigate against it and not to make flood risk worse in surrounding areas. No change from previous sustainability appraisal.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The previous sustainability appraisal identified the positive link between minimising the need to travel, ensuring new economic growth is accessible to potential staff and customers and potential benefits to the wider community. None of the changes to the policy affect this assessment.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	Other policies of the Plan advocate the reuse of previously developed land, this is not part of the remit of this policy.	o	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities	The previous sustainability appraisal identified the link between this objective and	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term			

amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	the fact that transport policy advocates locating development near to services and facilities and improving accessibility both in the design of buildings and around settlements. The changes to the policy do not affect this.						
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	None	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	One of the key criteria in the transport policy is that development should be accessible; thus supporting safe and vibrant communities. The text refers to safety of design. The changes to the policy strengthen this but do not affect the assessment from the draft SA.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	None	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	None. Although the policy would reduce energy usage in terms of vehicle movements, the objective is more linked to energy of buildings. There is no amendment to the appraisal as a result of the changes to the policy.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	The transport policy covers access to facilities by means other than the private car. The previous appraisal highlighted that minimising the need to travel, this should encourage people to walk or cycle and therefore lead to more healthy lifestyles. The policy also refers to the needs of disabled people and other groups with specific accessibility requirements. There are no changes to the appraisal as a result of changes to the policy.	√	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	Minimising the need to travel potentially reduces the amount of carbon resident's use and assists in a small way in mitigating against the effects of climate change.	○	Low	Local	none	none	

	<p>However, this has to be balanced against the very rural nature of the district and the high dependency on the private car in terms of the degree of impact that can be made. The changes to the policy do not affect this.</p>					
<p><b>Summary :</b>  Outcomes of the policy are largely positive or neutral as the policy seeks accessibility both in terms of services and facilities and economic growth. The lack of a specific spatial element means that it is not possible to gauge the impact on biodiversity or landscape, but these are addressed by other policies in the plan. The change to the policy and supporting text have not had a significant effect on the Sustainability Appraisal. Additions such as increased reference to accessibility will help strengthen some of the positive linkages already identified between the policy and the SA objectives but not change the outcome.</p>						

## Strategic Policy 15 – LANDSCAPE

<b>Policy Title: Landscape</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
No assumptions made.						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Only a few minor amendments to the text to add clarity on landscape scale assessment</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes to the Policy following the 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minor changes to the supporting next, policy unchanged so Sustainability Appraisal unaffected.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	Biodiversity is dealt with by another policy in the plan, although the biodiversity of the District plays a part in the shape of the landscape. There is no need to duplicate the policy here. No changes as a result of the consultation.	○	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The draft SA identified a significant positive impact between the policy and objective as the policy sets out the Plan's approach to the protection of landscape character.	√	High	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	There are some natural resource elements to landscape character in terms of trees and geology etc, however, the draft SA identified that the policy itself is unlikely to impact on these. No changes as a result of the consultation.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Protecting landscape quality is unlikely to have a direct impact on flood risk.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth	There are some potential economic benefits to be gained from a high quality landscape	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term

that supports communities within the district.	and commercial opportunities in relation to green tourism. A high quality of landscape and overall environment can make the District a more attractive place to invest overall. The changes do not affect this.							
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy is not directly related to this objective. Whilst reuse of previously developed land can improve local landscape quality, the issue is referred to in other policies of the plan.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	Medium Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities, amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The draft SA identified a positive impact as policy is seeking to improve access to the landscape as well as enhancing its quality which may improve the availability of green infrastructure. However, access is often dependent on individual landowners and this cannot always be guaranteed in the long term. Consultation has added a reference in the text to the Coastal Grazing Marsh Project which carries out work in relation to this.	✓	Medium	Local	Temporary	Medium Term		
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	The policy is not directly related to this objective.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	A high quality environment can help to support vibrancy by enhancing community pride and involvement. This remains unchanged.	✓	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term		
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policy is not directly related to this objective.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	There is no direct relationship between the policy and the objective.	0	Low	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy	The draft SA identified the positive links between the policy and the objective as it seeks to improve access to the landscape as	✓	Medium	Local	Temporary	Medium Term		

lifestyles"	<p>well as enhancing its quality. This may improve the availability of greenspace that can contribute to healthy lifestyles in terms of exercise. Consultation added reference to the Coastal Grazing Marsh Project which is another mechanism by which this can be achieved. However, access is often dependent on individual landowners and this cannot always be guaranteed in the long term. Also, an improved quality of environment can improve overall health and well being.</p>	√	Low	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	<p>Protecting and enhancing landscape quality extends to individual elements of the landscape, which may help minimise the effects of climate change through carbon sequestration, it can also assist in terms of species migration in the face of climate change.</p>					
<p>Summary: The impacts of the policy are positive or neutral as the policy does not in itself proposed development but sets requirements for consideration as part of other proposals. The changes to the policy are not significant and do not affect the assessment of the policy.</p>						



## Strategic Policy 16 – BIODIVERSITY AND GEODIVERSITY

<b>Policy Title: Biodiversity</b>								
Any Assumptions: None Made								
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There were a number of minor changes made to the supporting text to help clarification, including reference to linear features, expansion and linking of existing sites and current partnership working;</li> <li>○ The protection of species and habitats under Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006" was added to the policy and the supporting text;</li> <li>○ The third paragraph of policy 16 was amended to read "In all cases, where development is permitted which would damage the nature conservation or geological value of a site, the Council will ensure that such damage is kept to a minimum and will ensure appropriate mitigation, compensation or enhancement of the site through the use of planning conditions or planning obligations.", at the request of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust;</li> <li>○ Add reference to the supporting text to the need for developers to provide up to date biodiversity information;</li> <li>○ Amend any reference to the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership to read Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership and clarify its role in Local Wildlife Sites.</li> </ul>								
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2106 consultation</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The approach to the sequential approach' to site mitigation has been strengthened.</li> <li>○ Reference to ancient woodland has been added to the policy.</li> </ul>								
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration		
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The changes seek to enhance the ability of the policy to achieve this objective by bringing greater clarity. The additions following the 2016 consultation only serve to strengthen this.	√√	High	District Wide	Permanent	Long Term		
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The change to the policy in respect of wildlife corridors may help with the protection of landscape features such as hedgerows and maintaining watercourse. The addition of ancient woodlands may provide further support to protecting the wider landscape.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term		
3. Protect natural resources	The initial assessment identified that the	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long		

from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	District's habitats form part of its natural resource, and the policy will help to protect them. The changes made to the policy will not change the impact, indeed reference to ancient woodlands will strengthen this..						Term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	This previous assessment identified no direct link between the policy and objective and the changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent		Long Term
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The previous assessment identified no direct link between the policy and the objective. However, in retrospect, the last SA did not draw out the balance in respect of this objective. The ability of this policy to restrict economic growth was raised through the 2009 SA, however, the policy would only prevent growth if development was promoted in inappropriate locations and could not be mitigated to be made acceptable under the terms of the policy. This also has to be counter balanced with the positive benefits that biodiversity can bring to economic development, be that a healthy agricultural industry, making the District an attractive place to live and invest; or attaching visitors to the green tourist offer. The changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	<b>√/X</b>	Low	Local	Permanent		Long Term
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The previous assessment identified no direct link between the policy and the objective; the changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent		Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities, amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The previous assessment identified no direct link between the policy and the objective; the changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	<b>0</b>	Low	Local	Permanent		Long Term

8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	There is no direct link between this policy and the objective; the changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	Protecting and enhancing areas of environmental quality can provide assets that add vibrancy to a community. The changes seek to enhance the ability of the policy to achieve this objective by bringing greater clarity.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	There is no direct link between this policy and the objective; the changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	There is no direct link between this policy and objective, although sustainable design and construction should always take account of its setting and its impact on any habitats or species. The changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	The previous assessment identified possible opportunities for access to some sites under this policy, improving opportunities for exercise and to get out into the countryside and greenspace with associated benefits. The changes to the policy do not affect this objective.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	The previous assessment identified links between the policy and species adaptation to climate change, the possible role in SUDS, flood alleviation in the wider countryside, urban cooling, carbon sequestration, species migration and other effects of climate change. The changes do the policy do not affect this assessment.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The assessment of this policy produced largely positive or neutral outcomes. The only difference to this is in respect of economic growth where the outcome reflects both the positive benefits to the economy of a healthy natural environment and the potential for negative outcomes if development is promoted in inappropriate locations. None of the changes to the policy and supporting text affect the approach of the policy and are only intended to bring clarity. Therefore, the appraisal of the policy remains unaffected.</p>						

## Strategic Policy 17 – GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

### Policy Title: Green Infrastructure

Any Assumptions:  
None made

#### Changes Made to the Policy following the 2012/13 consultation

There were a number of minor changes made to the supporting text of the policy to aid clarity. These include a broader definition of green infrastructure and the role it can play in the community, the requirement to assess biodiversity of a site to link into other sites, along with the role of Public Rights of Way and gardens in green infrastructure.

#### Changes made to the Policy following the 2016 consultation

- The policy has been expanded to include criteria for judging open spaces suitable for protection through the development management process.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The previous changes to the policy seek to strengthen the role of Green Infrastructure in biodiversity by drawing attention to the need to provide information on how new sites link in to existing networks. The addition to the policy following the 2016 consultation will present further opportunity to protect biodiversity.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The draft SA policy identified the policy as having a positive impact on this objective and the changes do not affect this. The 2016 addition will further support this.	√	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The role of the policy in protecting some natural resources and relieving pollution by providing green lungs was identified in the previous assessment. The change to the text to draw attention to the role of water in green infrastructure will strengthen the link to this objective, although overall the degree of impact is still neutral due to the breath of natural resources and potential pollutants,	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term



11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	The role of the policy in providing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and walkways and cycleways for sustainable modes of transport, in urban cooling and helping tackle some of the effects of climate change were previously identified. The previous additions to the text help strengthen these links.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	The role of the policy in providing outlets for exercise and in contributing to general health and well being through improvements to the quality of the environment, and reducing pollution were previously identified. The additions to the text help to strengthen these links and provide further opportunity to protect spaces.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	The role of the policy in providing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and walkways and cycleways for sustainable modes of transport, in urban cooling and helping tackle some of the effects of climate change were previously identified. The additions to the text will help strengthen these links.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The outcomes identified for this policy through the appraisal are all positive or neutral. None of the changes to the supporting text affect the approach of the policy. They are intended to bring clarity and in some cases will strengthen the links between the policy and some of objectives by being clearer about the role and benefits of green infrastructure. Therefore, the appraisal of the policy remains unaffected.</p>						



## Strategic Policy 18 – OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION

<b>Policy Title: Open Space Sport and Recreation</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
None						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference to the need for an up to date and robust assessment to be carried out before considering the loss of sport and recreation facilities.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes made to the Policy following 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor amendments for clarity which do not change the nature of the sustainability appraisal..</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The draft SA identified that some greenspace that is used for sport, and particularly informal recreation, may have some biodiversity value. However, areas that are a haven for wildlife, such as hedges, rough grass areas etc may well be cleared in the interests of the sports use, which is normally managed for its primary use and any biodiversity value is a by-product. New areas for sport and recreation may take place on existing greenfield land, but any possible biodiversity interest would be assessed under the biodiversity policy. The impact was therefore changed to uncertain as part of the 2012 SA, but the biodiversity policy will help to address the potential impacts or steer development to more suitable sites.	?	Low	Local	Temporary	Medium Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic	The previous SA identified that provision of sport and recreation facilities may have a limited impact on this objective. Informal recreation facilities may add to the overall	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term



environment.	character of the landscape but formal sports facilities are frequently functional in appearance and manicured in character rather than reflecting the local landscape. New built facilities in communities may have an impact on townscape but this will be mitigated through the design policy. The impact has therefore been changed to uncertain, but the landscape policy will help to address the potential impacts or steer development to more suitable sites.						
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The use of land for sport and recreation purposes is unlikely to have a significant impact on natural resources and pollution; unless the sport is motor sport related or has a large land requirement. Any associated buildings may have a limited impact in respect of the construction phase and materials used.	0	Low	Local	Temporary	Short Term	
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	The impact of the policy on this objective will depend on the location and therefore the impact is uncertain. The protection and provision of any green areas for sport and recreation can play a role in Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) or indeed in flood alleviation in the wider countryside. Therefore the impact is uncertain.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective, although there may be commercial opportunities linked to some sport and recreation provision, these are likely to be secondary to the primary use.	0	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective. However, some sport and recreation uses may well be in rural or edge of settlement locations and sports facilities often require green areas. There is a chance that this could take place on agricultural land, but this is unquantifiable at present.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term	

		✓✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities, amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	The policy and objective were identified as wholly compatible in the draft SA. Protecting additional facilities and seeking provision of additional sport and recreation facilities is a key part of improving access to services and facilities. Sport and recreation facilities also have a role to play in green infrastructure. Changes to the policy have only sought to strengthen this.	✓✓				
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The provision of sport and recreation facilities will help to support the vibrancy of communities through the range of activities and clubs and societies that are available. This was identified through the draft SA and is still the case with the changes to the policy.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	There is no direct link between the policy and the objective. New buildings required for these uses will need to comply with the design policy that refers to sustainable design and construction.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	The policy and the objective are wholly compatible. Protection of and additional sport and recreation facilities will have a vital role in helping to support healthy lifestyles, be that through formal sport or through increased opportunities for walking and children's play. This will only be reinforced by the changes to the policy.	✓✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term
13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	Outdoor sports facilities, incorporating large areas of greenspace can play a role in providing Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS). They can also play a role in	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long Term

	urban cooling, carbon sequestration and other effects of climate change.					
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The effects of the policy on the sustainability appraisal objectives are largely neutral or positive. There are four areas of uncertainty. The first three of these are in respect of biodiversity; landscape; and flood risk as it is not known where sites will come forward or what type of infrastructure will be involved. The policies of the Core Strategy that deal directly with these matters will help to address any potential impacts or help to steer development to more suitable sites. The other is the use of greenfield land. Some sport and recreation uses can have a large land take and this often requires rural or edge of centre location and this may well require the use of greenfield land and possibly agricultural land. At this stage, proposals under this policy cannot be predicted and the impact cannot be quantified.</p>						

## Strategic Policy 19 – RENEWABLE ENERGY

<b>Policy Title: RENEWABLE ENERGY</b>						
Any Assumptions:						
The District will continue to attract interest from potential, commercial scale, renewable energy development and therefore the Council needs to clearly state its policy for such development.						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following the 2012/13 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The policy has been amended to remove the blanket approach to renewable energy in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.</li> <li>o The noise criterion has been returned to refer solely to ETSU-R-97.</li> <li>o A new paragraph has been added on grid connection.</li> <li>o Paragraph 6 (now 7) has been reworded in respect of assessing the impact of development. These are mainly minor amendments but the number of them required a redrafting of the paragraph.</li> </ul>						
<b>Changes Made to the Policy following the 2016 consultation</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The policy has been redrafted to better reflect the NPPF in respect of the AONB and sensitive landscapes.</li> <li>o Reference has been made in the text to transmission infrastructure.</li> <li>o The section on single glazing has been removed.</li> <li>o The supporting text has been amended to add a paragraph on solar power, which is growing in prevalence in the District, and to refer to the Ministerial Statement on Wind Energy and the Council's response.</li> </ul>						
Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	The policy still refers to the need to consider the impact on sites and features of natural history significance and protected species.	✓	Medium	District	Permanent	Long Term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The policy requires consideration of surrounding distinctive landscape qualities, townscapes and historic landscape character, although the blanket requirement to be locate outside the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty has had to be removed following objection as it is not supported by the NPPF. However, exceptional circumstances will have to be demonstrated. In concert with the landscape policy, high	?	Medium	District	Permanent	Long Term

	regard should be give to all landscape impacts, including those on sensitive and protected landscapes. This has been amended to reflect the NPPF approach on protected landscapes. Impacts are identified as District wide as renewable energy requires landscape scale considerations due to their potential to be seen at some considerable distance and to have potentially cumulative effects. Future location and types of energy generation are in know, so the policy.								
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	The policy still requires specific consideration of water quality and the water environment. Other policies of the plan cover other natural resources. Disruption to water resources can soon extend to a wide area, either from pollution or flow disruption. Any negative effects can potential by addressed but can sometimes take time to be satisfactorily resolved.	√	Medium	District	Permanent	Medium Term			
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot be avoided.	Other policies of the plan deal specifically with this issue. Renewable energy development is unlikely in itself to increase the risk of flooding, nor be particularly susceptible to it with the possible exception of biomass plants.	○	Low	Local	N/A	N/A			
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	The draft SA identified that, although large scale renewable energy development is an income generator, it rarely supports long term economic growth in the local area. The policy is more supportive of micro and small scale generation with can help support local businesses and community groups. The changes do not affect this.	○	Low	Local	Permanent	Local Term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The draft SA identified a neutral link as some forms of renewable energy, by their very nature, require a rural location. Others can be located in centres of population and the text to the policy reflects that. Other policies	○	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long Term			



Summary:

The renewable energy policy tries to strike a balance between the needs of climate change and government support for the renewables sector, and the need to protect local character and environment. The policy is generally more supportive of small and micro energy production that is likely to have a lesser impact on its surroundings. There are no negative impacts predicted for the policy, as it contains a number of mitigating criteria, and there are some positive outcomes, although the majority of predicted impacts are neutral. Although the two consultation periods have led to significant change to the wording of the policy, and the supporting text, the underlying principles of the policy has not changed. However, with the removal of the blanket approach to proposals in the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and other highly sensitive landscapes and the additional reflection of the requirement in the NPPF for these landscapes, the impact on landscape has been changed to uncertain. This has not been identified as negative as the revised wording, in combination with the landscape policy of the plan, should seek to address this issue throughout the range of potential renewables development that may be proposed.



## Strategic Policy 20 - INFRASTRUCTURE

### Policy Title: INFRASTRUCTURE

Any Assumptions: The assumptions underpinning this policy are that the different services, utilities and facilities that are needed to support or sustain development are, or will be made available to meet the projected levels of growth in the plan. This policy excludes green infrastructure.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following the 2012/13 consultation

- There are a few minor changes to the text.

- Change to the policy to include impact of infrastructure provision on viability of schemes.

#### Changes Made to the Policy following the 2016 consultation

- There are a few minor changes to the text which do not alter the sustainability appraisal.

Objectives	Likely Impact	Degree of Impact	Likelihood of Impact	Scale	Permanence	Duration
1. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the areas' biodiversity (native plants and animals) and geodiversity.	Policy seeks to ensure that where development occurs the necessary infrastructure is in place to service its needs and avoid damaging impacts. The policy itself does not mention biodiversity, although it does state that development under this policy should contribute to sustainable development, which should include biodiversity. This should be used alongside the discrete policy for biodiversity. No change from draft SA.	?	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term
2. Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes and historic environment.	The policy refers specifically to the impact of proposed development on the character of the landscape.	✓	Low	District wide	Permanent	Long term
3. Protect natural resources from avoidable losses and pollution and minimise the impacts of unavoidable losses and pollution.	One of the aims of the policy is to ensure that surface and foul water systems are in place to help avoid pollution.	✓✓	Medium	District wide	Permanent	Medium to Long term
4. Avoid the risk of flooding (where possible) and fully mitigate against the impacts of flooding where it cannot	One of the objectives of the policy is to ensure that systems are in place to prevent flooding as a result of development.	✓	Medium	District wide	Permanent	Medium to Long term

be avoided.									
5. Promote viable and diverse economic growth that supports communities within the district.	Policy will ensure that essential infrastructure is in place or can be provided to facilitate development, which will support economic growth in the District.	✓✓	Medium	District wide	Permanent	Medium to Long term			
6. Prioritise appropriate re-use of previously developed land and minimise the loss of the best agricultural land and greenfield sites.	The policy does not contribute directly to achieving this objective. See design policy.	○	Low	District wide	N/A	N/A			
7. Improve accessibility to key services, facilities amenities and green infrastructure including the promotion of sustainable modes of access.	Policy is compatible with this objective as it aims to support delivery of key services and utilities.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
8. Increase reuse and recycling rates and minimise the production of waste.	It is likely that the policy will have an indirect impact on reducing the levels of waste that is produced.	○	Low	District wide	Temporary	Long term			
9. Support inclusive, safe and vibrant communities.	The policy will support the maintenance of vibrant communities by ensuring necessary infrastructure is provided within the bounds of economic constraints and supports services within communities.	✓	Medium	Local	Permanent	Long term			
10. Ensure that local housing needs are met.	The policy will only have an indirect impact on the delivery of affordable housing but the requirements of the policy will be essential to ensuring delivery of the objective.	✓	High	District wide	Permanent	Long term			
11. Increase energy efficiency and ensure appropriate sustainable design, construction and operation of new developments.	Design policy is lead policy on this objective.	○	Medium/High	Local	Permanent	Long term			
12. Encourage and provide the facilities and infrastructure for "healthy lifestyles"	Supports development of community facilities, which can include health related infrastructure.	✓	Low	Local	Permanent	Long term			

13. Positively plan for, and minimise the effects of, climate change.	Climate change will shape the provision of the waste and foul water that are essential to the delivery of new development. The policy seeks to plan for this by seeking appropriate solutions.	o	Low	District wide	Permanent	Long term
<p>Summary :</p> <p>There have been no major changes to this policy from the draft Core Strategy so the assessment through the Sustainability Appraisal is little changed. Infrastructure planning and delivery, either to enable development to occur or, to service the needs of the inhabitants of new development, is fundamental to sustaining communities whether in the shape of utilities or social infrastructure. This policy seeks to ensure that necessary provision is made at the outset by establishing through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan what deficiencies exist and how they will be met. The impacts of the policy are largely positive on the sustainability objectives as the policy is seeking to achieve positive outcomes for communities through infrastructure but also makes reference to sustainable development and landscape character in delivering the infrastructure. In retrospect, previous positive impact for biodiversity has been changed to uncertain as the location and scale of infrastructure needed is not known at this stage. The policy does not mention biodiversity, this is dealt with in much greater detail in its own discrete policy, which provides the detail necessary to judge any proposals coming forward; the criteria do not need to be repeated in the infrastructure policy.</p>						