

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Annual Monitoring Report 2008

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members about the content of the Local Development Framework – Annual Monitoring Report 2008 (1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008).
- 1.2 To seek endorsement of the document to inform the preparation of future Development Plan Documents that form the Local Development Framework.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 As required by latest planning legislation, councils must produce Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) to assess the Local Development Framework's (LDF's) performance and its effects. This aligns with the Government's 'plan, monitor and manage' approach to planning, where monitoring directly influences the review and amendment of policy.
- 2.2 AMRs should assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents (LDDs) are achieving their aims. Where targets are not being achieved it should suggest reasons why this is the case and establish what action will be taken to either make sure the policy is implemented or to amend/replace the policy. It also enables councils to define the characteristics of their area, determine current trends, and understand local social, economic and environmental issues.
- 2.3 This is North Lincolnshire's fourth AMR and looks at the period from April 2007 to March 2008. There is a standard format for AMRs set out in DCLG's 'Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide'. It is required that AMRs be submitted to the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber by the end of December each year.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To date all milestones have been met with regard to the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The public consultations for the Housing

and Employment Land DPD Issues and Options stage and Proposals Map were successfully undertaken in October/November 2007. However, the production of the Waste DPD has been delayed with the agreement of GOYH because insufficient data is currently available at regional and local level. The change is reflected in the revised (November 2008) version of the LDS.

3.2 There are two main categories under which information is monitored. Core Indicators are a set of national indicators that all local authorities must measure. They help to identify where policies may need to be reviewed and inform spatial planning at the regional and national levels. Within this category falls the sub-category of Housing Delivery, which looks at past and present housing trends and future projections. There have been positive and negative results with regard to performance in these categories during 2007/08. Some of the key issues to note from the report are:

3.3 Core Indicators

- There has been just over 4,100 m² (gross) of floor space developed for 'town centre uses' (A1, A2, B1a, D2).
- 46,000 m² of land was developed for business uses, with almost 95% of development for business and employment purposes on previously developed land.
- Although there was far more floor space developed for B8 (storage and distribution) uses this year compared to last year, 2006/07 saw more development of land for B2 (general industrial) uses.

3.4 Housing Delivery

- 480 houses were built in 2007/08, around a third less than 2006/07. This reduced the average completions rate to 653 per year, comfortably above the 550 dwellings required by the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) during the AMR year.
- The number of new dwellings built on previously developed land fell to 27.5% compared to 2006/07's figure of 37%.
- Since 2001/02 an annual average of 22 affordable units has been built in North Lincolnshire.

3.5 Local Indicators are a set of indicators that are defined at the local level and help to assess the performance of the current North Lincolnshire Local Plan. In the future they will assess the policies in adopted LDF documents. There have been positive and negative results with regard to performance in these categories during 2007/08. Some of the key issues from the report are:

3.6 Local Indicators

- The amount of waste going to landfill sites decreased by 9% compared to 2006/07.

- 226 new jobs were created (This figure is exclusive to SRHD monitoring and will in fact be greater in real terms), an increase of more than 70% from the previous year.
- Bus passenger journeys have increased by nearly 37% since 2003/04 (bucking the national trend).

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 If recent development trends persist, taking schemes that are now in the pipeline into account, it is fair to assume that North Lincolnshire will continue to build between 30 to 50% of housing on brownfield land in the immediate future. Considering the housing completions for the first half of this year (April to December 2008 – AMR 2009), it is predicted that approximately 50 to 55% of completions will be on brownfield land. This is a significant improvement on previous years, which will mainly be as a result of a number of large greenfield housing sites being already completed, including Normanby Grange in Scunthorpe and Timberlands in Bottesford. This is in addition to an increase in completions on major brownfield sites at Herriot Walk and Staindale Road in Scunthorpe, and Station Road in Epworth.

4.2 AMR 2009 will see the implementation of new initiatives to improve the monitoring of LDF policies and their preparation. The creation of new monitoring systems and the development of internal and external partnerships will help to develop future indicators and create a more comprehensive evidence base.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 Financial implications – To be met from existing financial resources and the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant (HPDG).

5.2 Staffing implications – Primarily Spatial Planning team with contributions from other internal and external staff resources, where appropriate.

5.3 Property implications – none

5.4 IT implications - none

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 Statutory implications – It is a statutory planning duty for councils to produce AMRs.

6.2 Environmental implications – The AMR forms part of North Lincolnshire's Local Development Framework, which is key to achieving sustainable development and addressing climate change in North Lincolnshire.

- 6.3 Diversity implications – The Local Development Framework is the subject of a Diversity Impact Assessment.
- 6.4 Section 17 – Crime and Disorder implications – Policies contained in the Local Development Framework, particularly those relating to the design of buildings and spaces, will aim to contribute to reducing crime and fear of crime.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 That the AMR report is endorsed and used to inform the future preparation of Development Plan Documents that form the Local Development Framework.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004
DCLG - Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators
North Lincolnshire Annual Monitoring Report 2006
North Lincolnshire Annual Monitoring Report 2007