

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**REGENERATION  
CABINET MEMBER**

**NORTHERN LINCOLNSHIRE LEADER PROGRAMME (2015-20)  
PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1. To update the Cabinet Member on the future Rural Development Programme for England LEADER Programme (2015-20).
- 1.2. To seek support for the proposed boundary changes for the Northern Lincolnshire area.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The new Rural Development Programme for England (LEADER) programme will run from 2015-2020. It will focus on creating jobs and growth in rural economies. The LEADER programme will focus on the following priorities.
  - Increasing farm productivity
  - Support for micro and small businesses and farm diversification
  - Support for rural tourism
  - Provision of rural services
  - Support for cultural and heritage activity
  - Support for increasing forestry productivity
- 2.2 The Northern Lincolnshire LEADER Local Action Group is developing a Local Development Strategy. They intend submitting this to Defra in September 2014. The strategy will set out how they intend to invest LEADER funding. They will use the strategy as the bidding document.
- 2.3 Defra has set out their eligibility criteria for LEADER. In light of this guidance, current locality boundaries need changing. Defra will identify indicative funding based on the revised boundary and the Local Development Strategy.
- 2.4 Consultation will take place with a range of stakeholders. These will include the Local Enterprise Partnerships, the National Farmers Union, local business networks, Town and Parish Councils and other community representatives. The consultation will ensure that the Local Development Strategy is fit for purpose and complements other relevant local strategies.

2.5 Appendix 1 shows the proposed boundary. It is based on 2001 Census data for Output Areas. Output areas can be either urban or rural. All Rural Output Areas and some Urban Output Areas can potentially attract LEADER funding. As a result, the proposed boundary will not exactly match existing ward or parish boundaries.

2.6 For Urban Output Areas to attract LEADER funding, they must satisfy the following criteria.

- not part of a built up area
- considered as discrete parts of a built up area
- designated by Defra as 'Hub Towns' for the local rural community

2.7 Officers have developed the proposed boundary in light of the above. It can be changed prior to submitting the final Local Development Strategy.

### 3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 The options for the Cabinet Member to consider are to either:

- Support the proposed boundary.
- Suggest an alternative boundary that meets the Defra criteria.

### 4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 Adopting the proposed boundary would make all areas, other than the urban area of Scunthorpe, eligible for LEADER funding. The purple area highlights the localities considered ineligible under the proposal.

4.2. The area to the north-west of Scunthorpe is included as a 'non-built up part of an Urban Output Area'. This preserves the ward boundary of Burton upon Stather and Winterton. It also ensures that Flixborough remains eligible for funding.

4.3. Defra hasn't designated Barton upon Humber as a hub town. This means that Barton upon Humber wouldn't attract LEADER funding. However, the Local Action Group, the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership and members of the local community, feel very strongly that Barton is a hub town for the surrounding rural hinterland. As such, they believe that the town should be eligible for funding. For this reason, the proposed boundary includes Barton upon Humber. Officers will discuss this further with Defra.

4.4. Defra has designated Immingham and the surrounding built up area as a hub town eligible for LEADER Funding.

4.5. In North East Lincolnshire, a small area of Cleethorpes is included in the proposed boundary as 'non-built up parts of an Urban Output Area'. This will enable the area to maximise the tourism/business potential to meet the economic outputs stipulated by Defra. This area in particular may be subject

to change once the indicative allocation is known and as proposals for Community Led Local Development are finalised by the Local Enterprise Partnerships.

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

5.1 The current programme includes funding for project management and administration. The bid for future funding will also include for these provisions.

**6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 Officers have completed an integrated impact assessment. There were no issues of concern to report.

**7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 North East Lincolnshire Council, Humber and Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnerships and the current Northern Lincolnshire Local Action Group were consulted as part of the mapping process. The proposed boundary changes reflect the outcomes of this consultation

7.2 Further consultation will continue with businesses, wider partners and the community on the Local Development Strategy.

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the Cabinet Member notes the information on the future Rural Development Programme for England (LEADER) Programme for 2015-20 and approves changes to the proposed boundary.

**DIRECTOR OF PLACES**

Civic Centre  
Ashby Road  
SCUNTHORPE  
North Lincolnshire  
DN16 1AB  
Author: Phillipa Kenyon/Jenny Couch  
Date: 23 May 2014

**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:       None**

**LEADER ELIGIBILITY**

 Local Authority Boundary

 Ward Boundary

**Eligibility Criteria**

 Remaining Built Up Areas (not eligible)

 Rural area (eligible)

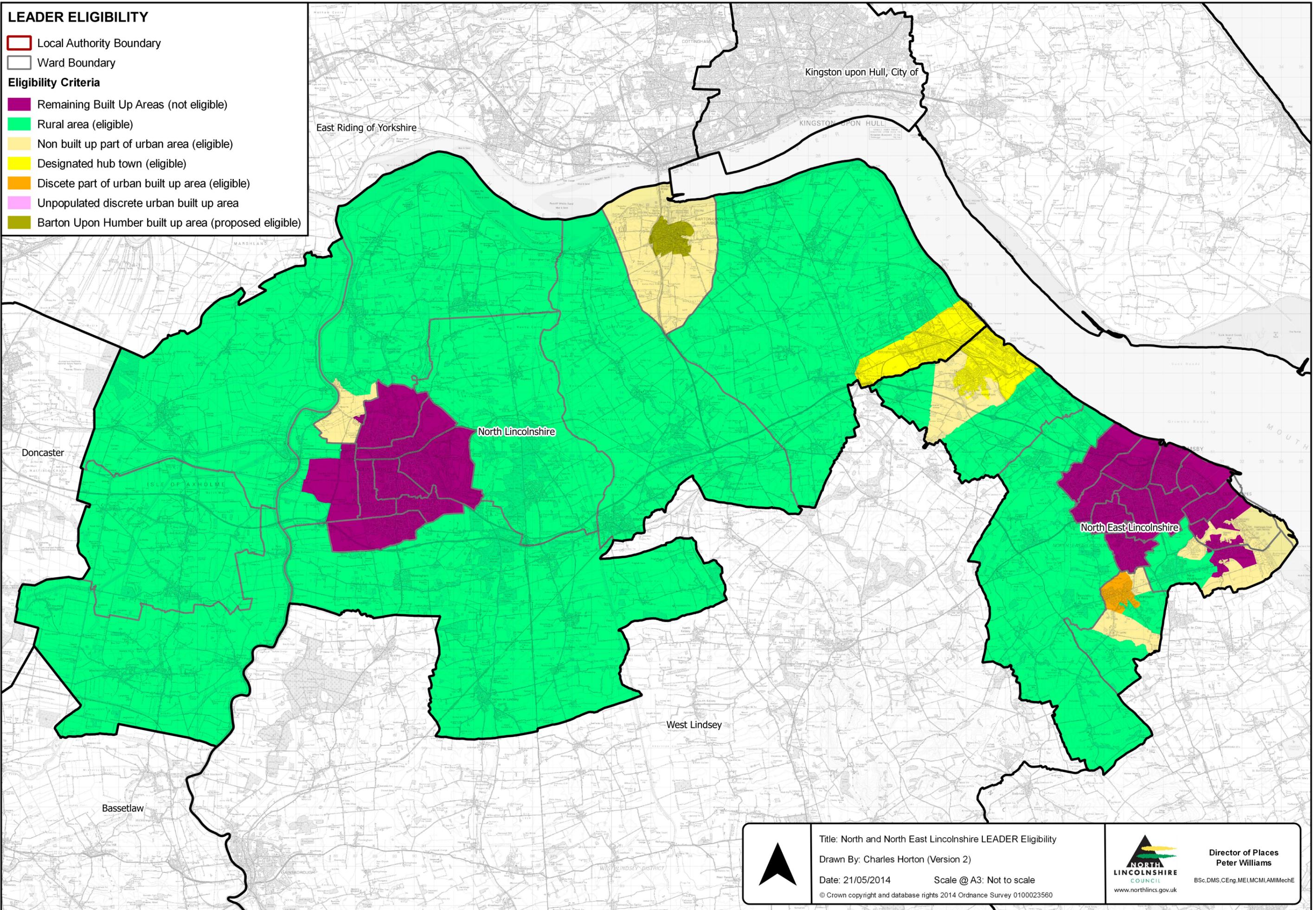
 Non built up part of urban area (eligible)

 Designated hub town (eligible)

 Discete part of urban built up area (eligible)

 Unpopulated discrete urban built up area

 Barton Upon Humber built up area (proposed eligible)



	Title: North and North East Lincolnshire LEADER Eligibility			Director of Places <b>Peter Williams</b> BSc, DMS, CEng, MEI, MCMI, AMIMechE <a href="http://www.northlincs.gov.uk">www.northlincs.gov.uk</a>
	Drawn By: Charles Horton (Version 2)			
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