



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION
REPORT

February 2022



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Findings	3
Proposal 1 – 2036 Vision for South Kesteven	3
QUESTION 1a – The Vision	3
QUESTION 1b – The Vision	4
QUESTION 1a – The Vision	5
Proposal 2 - Objectives	6
QUESTION 2 – Objectives	6
Proposal 3 – Policies not proposed to be changed significantly.....	9
QUESTION 3 – Policies not proposed to be changed significantly	9
Proposal 4 – Plan Period	14
QUESTION 4 – Plan Period	14
Proposal 5 – Settlement Hierarchy	16
QUESTION 5a – Settlement Hierarchy	16
QUESTION 5b – Settlement Hierarchy Methodology	17
QUESTION 5c – New Settlement	18
Proposal 6 – Housing Need and Requirement.....	20
QUESTION 6 – Housing Need and Requirement	20
Proposal 7 – Distribution of Growth	22
QUESTION 7a – Focus of Housing Growth on Grantham	22
QUESTION 7b – Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings	23
QUESTION 7c – Larger Villages	24
QUESTION 7d – Other Settlements	25
QUESTION 7e – Consideration of the Market and Deliverability*	26
Proposal 8 – Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation	28
QUESTION 8 – Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation	28
Proposal 9 – Revisions to the Employment Policy.....	30
QUESTION 9a – Strategic Employment Allocations	30
QUESTION 9b – Other Employment Allocations Increasing Flexibility on Established Employment Areas	31
Proposal 10 – Climate Change	33
QUESTION 10 – Climate Change Policies	33
Proposal 11 – Energy Performance Standards	35
QUESTION 11a – Energy Performance Standards in Residential Development	35
QUESTION 11b – Energy Performance Standards in Non-Residential Development	36

QUESTION 11c – Viability Implications of Higher Energy Performance Standards	37
Proposal 12 – Need for Caravan Accommodation.....	38
QUESTION 12 – Need for Caravan Accommodation	38
Proposal 13 – Parking Standards	39
QUESTION 13 – Parking Standards	39
Any other comments	40
QUESTION 14 – Any Other Comments	40
3. Conclusion.....	41

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Full Representations (Separate Document).....	42
Appendix 2 – Representations and Officer Response (Separate Document).....	42
Appendix 3 – Consultation Notices.....	423

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the South Kesteven District Council Local Plan Review Issues and Options Consultation. It presents a summary of the responses to the consultation, including details of the key issues being raised.
- 1.2 The Issues and Options consultation was the first opportunity for the local community to become involved in the preparation of the Local Plan Review. The Consultation ran for 6 weeks between Monday 12th October 2020 and Monday 23rd November 2020.
- 1.3 The current Local Plan for South Kesteven was adopted in January 2020. During the examination process and through main modifications the Inspector recommended an early review of the Local Plan and the inclusion of Policy M1.
- 1.4 Policy M1 commits the Council to commence the review of the Local Plan in April 2020, with the submission to the Secretary of State for examination by the end of December 2023 with specific matters which are needed to be addressed. These are as follows:
 - The progress being made towards implementation of the spatial strategy for South Kesteven, in particular the focus on development in Grantham to be achieved by the end of the plan period;
 - Taking account of the latest National Planning Policy Framework, particularly in relation to the assessment of housing needs and future requirement for employment land and
 - Further assessment of the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community, including Travelling Showpeople, and the need to allocate land to meet identified needs.
- 1.5 The consultation document set out 13 proposals for what may change in the new Local Plan and 24 associated questions to obtain views and evidence to support the direction of the plan review. There was also an opportunity for respondents to identify any other areas of the plan that required review above and beyond the policies proposed for change.
- 1.6 All consultation documents were available on the Council's website for inspection. Hardcopies were not available at District Council Offices or local Libraries due to Covid-19. This was in line with the guidance on reviewing and updating the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), and new legislation which come into force for local development documents (amending, on a temporary basis, regulation 35 and 36 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) until 31st December 2020. However, on request, paper copies of the Consultation paper and/or the response form were posted to help ensure that people had adequate access to the documents.
- 1.7 Over 1700 individuals, organisations and statutory consultees on the Planning Policy consultation database were contacted directly to publicise the consultation. The Council also published news and information on the consultation on their website and social media pages. In addition, local press releases and formal notices were published in local newspapers.

- 1.8 Representations were encouraged to be submitted electronically or posted using the provided response form available on the Councils website. However, representations by email and letter were also accepted.
- 1.9 As result of the consultation over 1600 responses were received from 124 respondents. Some respondents answered all questions, whilst others provided a response to some of the questions. This report provides a summary of all the responses to the consultation.
- 1.10 An Interim Sustainability Appraisal was produced alongside the Local Plan Issues & Options. 16 responses we received on the Sustainability Appraisal. The comments will be considered through the preparation of the draft Local Plan and the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal.

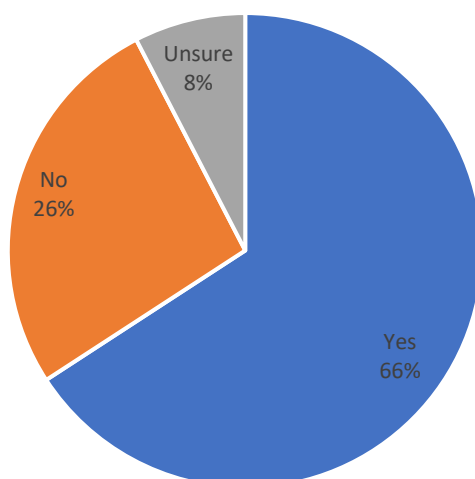
2. Findings

- 2.1 This section provides an overall summary of representations received to the Issues and Options consultation.
- 2.2 Overall, 124 responses were received. Many of responses received answered all questions asked in the consultation paper, whilst others provided responses to some questions or provided comments to other areas of the plan review.
- 2.3 Full representations can be found in Appendix 1, and Officer responses can be found in Appendix 2.

Proposal 1 – 2036 Vision for South Kesteven

QUESTION 1a – The Vision

Do you agree that the Vision should be broadly the same for the new plan but updated with respect to the plan period and housing growth level? If not please provide details.



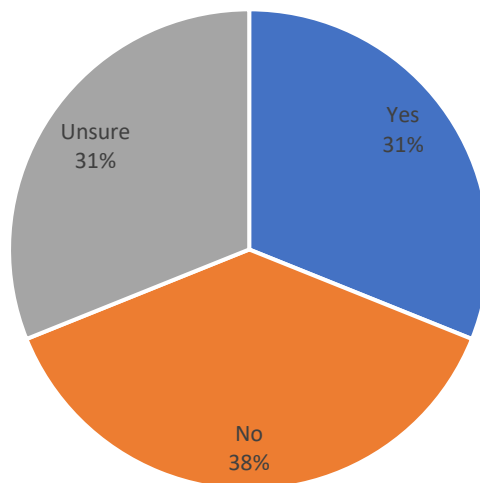
- 2.4 There were 90 responses to Q1a. 52 respondents stated that the vision should be broadly the same; 21 disagreed with the proposal, 6 were unsure and 11 did not respond to the yes/no question but provided comments.
- 2.5 Whilst the responses to the yes/no question imply general agreement with the vision the following are some of the issues raised by a number of respondents:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Update to reflect the revised assessment of housing need and plan period.
- Should be updated in light of emerging Government policies – White Paper could impact proposals.
- Opportunity to strengthen heritage wording.
- Should be proportionate to each settlement – more variety and opportunities for village developments
- Vision should sub-divide larger and smaller villages so growth can be discussed separately
- Considerations to infrastructure current and in terms of new development and regeneration
- Should reflect and recognise Covid-19 impacts and economic changes
- Remove reference to Bourne Neighbourhood Plan allocating residential sites
- Not necessary to increase housing growth in Bourne.
- The Deeping’s vision should be based on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Should recognise role of major strategic sites in Grantham.
- Should include more emphasis on redevelopment of living in existing town centre boundaries

QUESTION 1b – The Vision

Do you consider that the current Vision is sufficient to deal with climate change and the economic recovery of the District? If not please provide details.



2.6 There were 78 responses to Q1b. 23 respondents stated the vision is sufficient to deal with climate change and the economic recovery; 28 disagreed with the proposal, 23 were unsure and 4 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no questions.

2.7 There were a number of comments received in response to Question 1b and some of the key issues can be summarised as follows:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Should address and promote personal wellbeing and mental health initiatives and open spaces
- Should include greater emphasis and how it will seek to achieve Council's declaration of a Climate emergency and Government's commitment on climate change
- Should be progressive to anticipate and encourage all development to be carbon natural
- Additional and more challenging references of mitigation and adaptation of the importance of climate change (flooding/ green space).
- Should highlight the need to promote economic recovery and prosperity.
- Emphasis and priority need to be placed on facilitating employment opportunities in towns and housing to support working people.
- Vision would benefit from including and recognising the economic recovery of the district particularly in response to Covid-19.

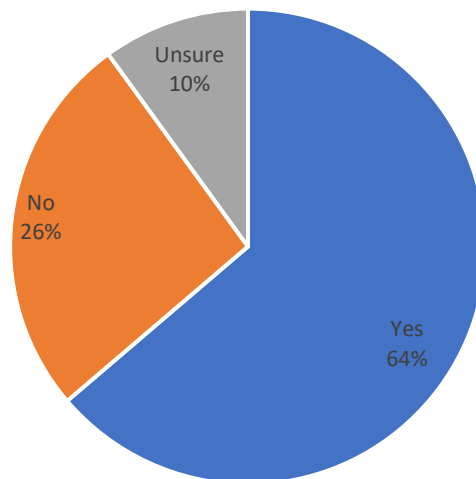
Next Steps

2.8 The proposal that the Vision should be broadly the same and updated with the plan period and housing growth level received a good level of support but there were comments detailing wording and additional points to consider including addressing climate change and economic recovery. It is proposed to retain the vision although changes that have been suggested could improve its scope and will therefore be considered in review of the Vision.

Proposal 2 - Objectives

QUESTION 2 – Objectives

Do you agree that the Objectives should remain the same for the new plan? If not please provide details.



2.9 There were 89 responses to Q2. 51 respondents agreed that the objectives should remain the same for the new plan; 21 disagreed with the proposal, 8 were unsure, 9 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.10 Whilst the response to yes/no question imply the general agreement that the objectives should remain the same the following are some of the issues raised by a number of respondents:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Objectives should refer to the Councils climate change emergency objective of reaching net zero by 2050.
- New objective based upon the need for new promotional business initiatives for the district.
- Under Environmental: protection and enhancement of Environment objectives include word “watercourses” or “rivers” in the same way trees and woodlands have been emphasised in Objectives 12, 13 and 14.
- Include scarce water resources by specific wording as it is only mildly implied, and lack of water in South Kesteven is a real issue more than most.
- Water resources is referred to in paragraph 4.35 but emphasising in objectives would be preferable.
- Should mention role of neighbourhood plans.
- Additional objective should be included in Social section to ensure new development is viable and deliverable and provides sufficient affordable homes to meet the local needs.

Objective 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should define sustainable growth and provide tangible targets to be reached, both in owner occupied and rented accommodation
Objective 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could be expanded to refer to green recovery and reflect the new direction in the Agricultural Act 2020 Should aim to build a green economy based on local support jobs
Objective 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should define sustainable Either move those to the strategy section or if valid make them objectives in their own right
Objective 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Objective 6 sub-clause starting 'as well as' should substitute the word 'whilst'. Why not reference the role of the 'larger villages' here too?
Objective 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective 7 conflicts with Objective 4 and cannot be met unless people need to travel to town centres
Objective 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration to be given to overhaul of traffic flow within the CBD of the town. The third bullet in Objective 8, (whilst a strategy) suggest add 'car sharing'. Objective does not translate in to planning policy and it is difficult to identify where consideration has been made for transport links that would result in the reduction in travel by car. Either move those to the strategy section or if valid make them objectives in their own right
Objective 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should include reference to the Town's Neighbourhood Plans being core in any decision making
Objective 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be strengthened to deliver health outcomes in the vision Cannot be met by the Local Plan
Objective 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be strengthened to deliver health outcomes in the vision
Objective 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be updated to reference the 'setting' of heritage assets and 'non designated heritage assets' Should promote the doubling nature objective followed by Cambridgeshire Good design and improved networks should be a priority (objective 12) but not as a sub-set of development
Objective 13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective too easy to avoid for developers must be central to any planning application Objective 13 relating to Climate change should be strengthened. It should commit to achieving any current target set by the government for carbon reduction Objective 13 on Climate Change should be moved to be objective 1. Climate change is explicitly referred to at objective 13 this could be referenced in the plan vision
Objective 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective too easy to avoid for developers must be central to any planning application
Objective 15

- Could be reworded to encompass the environmental impacts of pollution and not just the impacts that it has on health and wellbeing
- Objective too easy to avoid for developers must be central to any planning application

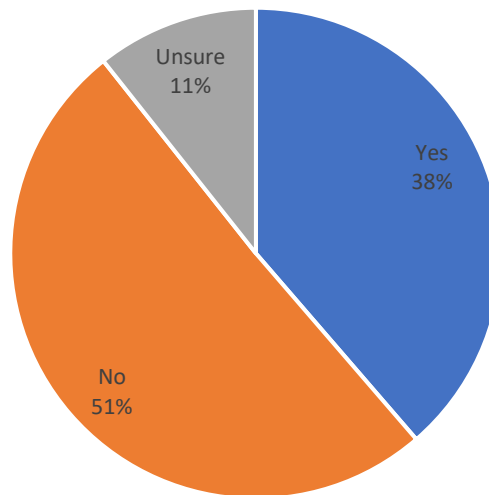
Next Steps

- 2.11 Good support for the objective to remain the same, however, there were suggestions to strengthen objectives further with minor word changes and additional points to be considered.

Proposal 3 – Policies not proposed to be changed significantly

QUESTION 3 – Policies not proposed to be changed significantly

Q4 – Do you agree with the list of Local Plan policies that are not proposed to be changed significantly? If not please provide details.



2.12 There were 95 responses to Q3. 29 agreed with the list of policies that are not proposed to be changed significantly; 39 disagreed with the proposal, 8 were unsure, 19 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no questions.

2.13 There were a number of comments received in response to question 3 and some of the key issues to each Policy are summarised below;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Update to ensure consistency with National Policy and climate change emergence or to enhance the effectiveness
- reflect any longer impacts of Covid-19
- New policy introduced to commit Council to production of a Trees and Woodland strategy (or SPD)
- Policy for no development to be permitted on any previously undeveloped land inside Stamford conservation area.
- Monitoring and Implementation Framework requires revision be considered at the Local Plan Review.

Policy SD1: The Principles of Sustainable Development in South Kesteven

- Future revisions to national policy may impact upon Policy SD1
- As per the emerging Environmental Bill, reference should be had to Biodiversity Net Gain, on (preferably) or off-site
- Add after criteria d 'the use of energy associated with the change of use or extension of the subject building as a whole'.

Policy SP1: Spatial Strategy

- It is vital that Grade 1, 2 and 3a land is still given a higher ranking in terms of protection. In restoring land though it is not practical to state that the land (i.e. soil) will be of 'at least equal quality', even though that may be a worthy aspiration.

Policy SP2: Settlement Hierarchy

- Could define settlement boundaries of each village to define the meaning of criteria 'b' of Policy SP3
- Concerns that the settlement hierarchy may change significantly when previous work has been undertaken should enhance existing node of employment and growth opportunities.

Policy SP3: Infill Development

- Should be amended in order to be less restrictive and more positively prepared
- Needs to ensure more consideration is given to local communities
- Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may impact upon policy SP3.
- Policy is too restrictive and prescriptive in its restriction of development. It should be at the judgement of the decision maker whether it is acceptable and based on the three criteria b, c, d.

Policy SP4: Development on the Edge of Settlements

- Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may impact upon policy SP4.
- Should be assessed entirely on material planning considerations, with public consultation still being available through normal representations after a planning application has been submitted
- Should be tightened and include the reference in para 2.13 about site to be subsequently enclosed and contained by physical boundaries.
- This is a permissive and unduly 'generous' policy. DNP2 2a limits sites to no more than 0.5ha and any larger need to be defend by specific allocation
- Should be reviewed to allow for adequate sustainable development on the edge of settlements
- Should shift focus away from test on substantial community support as it is too restrictive and must be reviewed to ensure further flexibility
- Criteria e will need to be widened as it is hard to specifically prove a local need

Policy SP5: Development in the Open Countryside

- Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may influence upon policy SP5.

Policy SP6: Community Services and Facilities

- might need to revise to refer to need rather than viability
- promotes protection of community services and facilities what about the promotion of new-positive planning (with evidence) para 92 NPPF.

Policy H1: Housing Allocations

- will need to acknowledge any new allocations that will come forward through the current plan process to meet the proposed increase in housing need across the plan period
- Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may influence upon policy H1.
- Should not be modified to increase housing in Stamford

Policy H2: Affordable Housing Contributions

- It is counterproductive for the adopted plan to only considered affordable housing C2 uses must also be included to promote employment uses such as care homes
- Should be amended to reflect the requirements of the NPPF, such as: 10% of dwellings should be available for affordable home ownership, to facilitate build to rent scheme, and to allow

<p>for lower requirements for schemes that provide accommodation for a group of people with specific needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may impact upon policy H2.
<p>Policy H3: Self and Custom Build Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated viability evidence may impact and influence upon policy H3. • Policy not appropriate and the requirement should be removed
<p>Policy H4: Meeting All Housing Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where it relates to elderly care merits a revisit as unachievable by the Plan. • Supported • Does not recognise the specific characteristics of the housing market and sectors of housing demand. Consider that specific policy action is required, and such a demand should be recognised in the 'Meeting Housing Needs' section of the Plan. • Future revisions to housing requirement quantum and its spatial distribution and updated viability evidence may influence and impact upon policy H4. • In order to meet the requirements of this policy to provide appropriate type and sized dwellings to meet the needs of current and future households in Billingborough, the Local Plan Review should allocate sites in this settlement. • Criteria A should be amended to emphasise the need for elderly care accommodation and support given to such schemes in view of the critical shortage of such accommodation in the District faced with an aging population
<p>Policy E1: Grantham Southern Gateway Strategy Employment Opportunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRE-SE1 has not been objectively tested with fill site walkover and setting analysis on the ground against landscape assessment, respecting the attractive nature of the steep rolling topography, and the desire to create an attractive 'gateway' on approaching Grantham from the south.
<p>Policy E2: Strategic Employment Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be amended in so far as it relates to the land at Exeter Fields to provide a reduced quantum of employment floorspace with the remainder of that land given over to housing.
<p>Policy E4: Protection of Existing Employment Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not recognise the existence of a significant employment area at Hards Lane (see DNP4.4) • where uses outside B1, B2 and B8 are proposed, these should not be supported where likely to impact on nearby town centres. The layout of sites should be reviewed to identify those sites that are not in town centres, such that B2 office use is not supported, thereby encouraging that use to locate to town centres
<p>Policy E5: Expansion of Existing Businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of existing retail businesses that could divert footfall from town centres should not be supported.
<p>Policy E6: Loss of Employment Land and Buildings to Non-Employment Uses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant or unviable out of town employment sites should be sequentially less preferred for leisure uses where that can be provided in or on the edge of town centres.
<p>Policy EN1: Landscape Character</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be revised to update in light of current NPPF and Council's declaration of a climate change emergency as well as forthcoming Environmental Bill
<p>Policy EN2: Protecting Biodiversity and Geodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be revised to update in light of current NPPF and Council's declaration of a climate change emergency • Should take account of forthcoming Environmental Bill and future commitment to mandatory 10% Biodiversity gain within policy or as an SPD

- Should be updated to reflect wording regarding the Lincolnshire BAP which end in 2020 and replaced by Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and policy referring to BAP should mention future strategies.
- Opportunities to amend and strengthen ancient woodland and aged/veteran tree protection and ensure that these habitats are given the maximum protection from development.

Policy EN3: Green Infrastructure

- Should be revised to update in light of current NPPF and Council's declaration of a climate change emergency as well as forthcoming Environmental Bill
- The Local plan must be more specific about the levels and types of green infrastructure which must be provided by development. This could be included in policy EN3 or ID1 or as a SPD.
- Policy could be strengthened

Policy EN5: Water Environment and Flood Risk Management

- Could go further in relation to water efficiency in new residential development in combination with other non-planning related actions.

Policy DE1: Promoting Good Quality Design

- Future revisions to national policy may impact upon Policy DE1
- Whilst it is referenced in SB1, given the importance of this matter, a paragraph should be added concerning low energy use in the design.

Policy SB1: Sustainable Building

- Reads weakly as the initial emphasis is on mitigation - which should be subsidiary. New development should not just 'demonstrate how' CO2 emissions are minimised, but it 'will' do so.

Policy OS1: Open Space

- Needs to ensure more consideration is given to local communities
- open space needs updating to reflect open space across the district
- Does not reflect NPPF in terms of para 96 and 97 the emphasis of this policy is on the provision of open space. Protection of playing fields should be based on appropriate evidence.

Policy GR3: Grantham Residential Allocations

- Needs to be kept under review in case housing allocations are not delivering and additional sites are to be identified.
- Will need to be updated to reflect higher housing requirement and additional allocations.

Policy GR4: Grantham Town Centre Policy

- May need refining in light of the High Street Fund bid.
- Need to reference the ambition of a better standard of maintenance and greening.

Policy BRN1: Bourne Housing Need

- Will need revisiting to reflect growth targets and to identify any allocations
- Should be revised to review Neighbourhood Plan requirements to allocate and a review mechanism be included in the event that sites are not identified within a specific timescale from adoption.

Policy DEP2: Market Deeping Town Centre Policy

- Policy does not recognise the change in the use class order
- Changes might reflect policy DNP5 of the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan

Policy LV-10: South Witham Residential Allocations

- Allocation should be revoked as the site could form part of an extended green heart of this intensively development village (which has the future potential for an extension but with more sensitive pattern than previously)

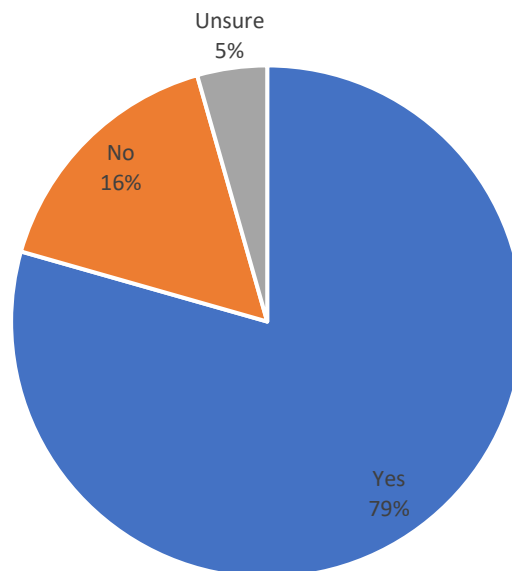
Next Steps

- 2.14 Each of the policies will be considered in light of the comments received. The Council has a duty to monitor the implementation of policies of the current local plan and appendix 5 of the current local plan considers the impact of planning policies. The Council will continue to monitor the position of national planning guidance and should any changes come into legislation will be reflected as part of the review. Schedule of supporting evidence will be consulted upon at the next stage of consultation.

Proposal 4 – Plan Period

QUESTION 4 – Plan Period

Do you agree with the proposed plan period up to 2041? If not please provide details



2.15 There were 77 responses to Q4. 57 respondents agreed that the plan should be till 2041; 11 respondents disagreed with the proposal, 3 were unsure, 6 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no questions.

2.16 Whilst the response to yes/no question imply the general agreement with the proposed plan period some of the issues raised by a number of respondents are as follows:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- The Council should extend the plan period beyond 2041 by 5 years
- The start of the Plan Period should be clarified
- Government policy appears to change yearly the existing timetable should be retained and no constant reviews to Local Plans.
- Extending the plan period to 2041 enables the Council to anticipate and response to long term requirements and opportunities as identified in the NPPF (paragraph 22) and meet NPPF requirements in terms of timescales.
- Local plan could be conducted within shorter timescales without compromising the quality of the plan preparation to boost housing delivery
- A longer plan period to ensure that the Local Plan provides a framework for long term delivery of new homes.
- Should be prepared to adapt due to Governments proposals for planning reform contained within the White Paper Planning for the Future.
- Plan period will correlate with updated Transport Model as it forecasts till 2041.
- Should be flexible to account for changes from Covid-19.

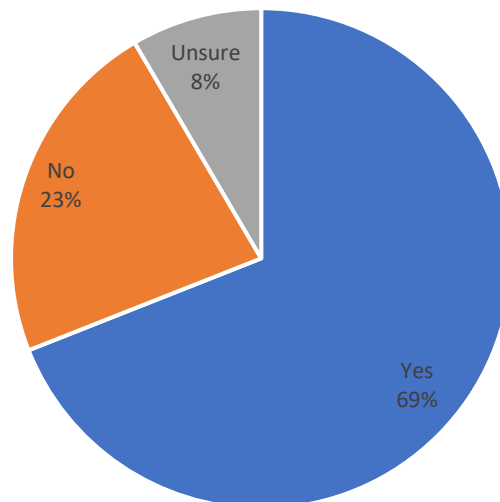
Next Steps

- 2.17 Strong agreement for the proposed plan period up to 2041. Some comments suggested that the plan period should be extended or conducted in short time frames. Also, the Council notes that the start date for the Plan period should be clarified.

Proposal 5 – Settlement Hierarchy

QUESTION 5a – Settlement Hierarchy

Do you think the Settlement Hierarchy should be retained in the new Local Plan? If not, please provide details of what changes you think should be made.



2.18 There were 81 responses to Q5a. 50 respondents agreed that the settlement hierarchy should be retained in the new local plan. 16 disagreed with the proposal, 5 were unsure and 10 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no questions.

2.19 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with the settlement hierarchy being retained in the new local plan some following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

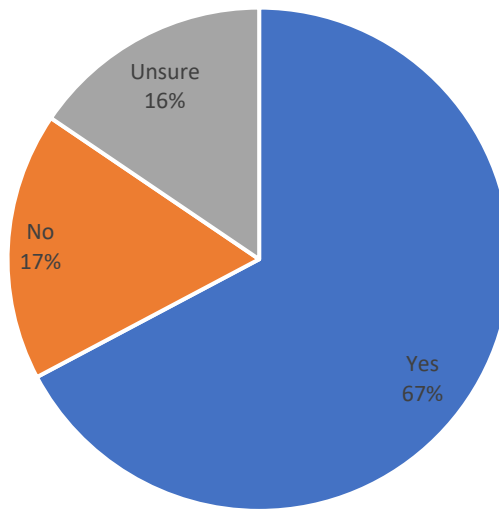
Issues Raised through Consultation

- Introduce three village categories – small, medium and large
- Greater proportion of development should be allocated to large and medium villages
- Smaller villages should be allocated development to limit overloading large villages with inappropriate development and positively respond to housing needs and fulfil role of sustainable development
- Up to date survey needs to be undertaken to reflect latest position of services
- Concentration on Grantham is unbalanced and in parallel with the uncoordinated approach of others
- The settlement hierarchy needs to account for the rapid growth of Stamford in the last ten years proposed increase in housing has the potential to over burden the infrastructure and change unique character or the town.
- Towns such as Grantham and Stamford should absorb developments as infrastructure is the towns is better suited to cope than Market Deeping.
- Present proposal is too restrictive for the future viability of the hamlets.

- Large number of villages designated as countryside could preclude neighbourhood planning in these smaller rural areas even where there is local need and/ or support.
- Entirely possible that one or more appropriately located new villages are required as part of the response to meeting the higher housing need figures in a sustainable way.
- Potential of a new settlement not fully supported it has been proven elsewhere that a strategy of urban expansion reliant on new settlement is difficult to bring forward

QUESTION 5b – Settlement Hierarchy Methodology

Do you think the current Settlement Hierarchy Methodology – specifically with respect to determining larger Villages – is appropriate for this review? If not, please provide details of what changes you think should be made.



2.20 There were 61 responses to Q5b. 39 respondents agreed with the proposal. 10 disagreed, 9 were unsure, and 3 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.21 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with the proposal the following are some of the issues raised by a number of respondents;

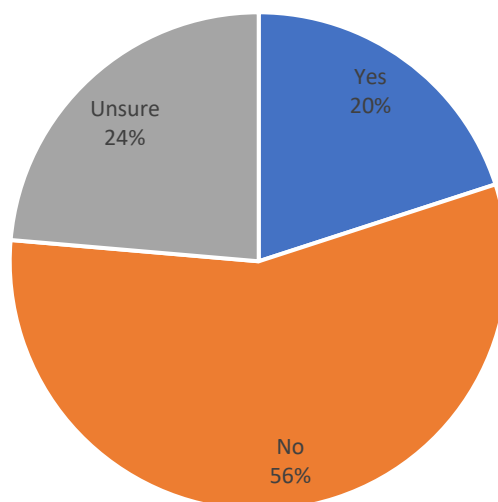
Issues Raised through Consultation

- Should be a major focus on greenfield sites
- Need to review approach current is too simplistic develop a more sophisticated approach that factors local characteristics and issues. Current does not follow scoring system and Core Strategy criteria explained in the Settlement Hierarchy review (2011-2036).
- Proactive assessment and review of villages to be appropriately recognised for connectivity/services

- Further consideration to villages that have been excluded from the 'sustainable definition'.
- Methodology needs some flexibility. Services in villages are constantly changing and even larger villages tend to lose shops and other services.
- Consult locally and adopt nuance approach in conjunction with local communities
- The assessment ignores the exhaustive and thorough examination of Larger Villages, then Local Service Centres (LSC's) in the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) Addendum Report June 2013.

QUESTION 5c – New Settlement

Given the scale of housing growth to be provided in this Local Plan is there a case for amending the Settlement Hierarchy to include any proposal(s) to establish a new community on garden village principles? If so, please outline any suitable and deliverable proposals.



2.22 There were 57 responses to Q5c. 11 respondents agreed with the proposal, 31 disagreed, 13 were unsure, and 2 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.23 There were a number of comments received in response to question 5c and responses are summarised below:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Future development should conform to the existing methodology which has been based on extensive research.
- There are plenty of opportunities within towns and villages to be considered in the first instance before a new settlement is considered.
- It is not considered that there is any need to designate further settlements at this stage.

- The retention of the Settlement Hierarchy will be influenced by the housing requirement figure and proposed spatial distribution strategy.
- Should focus on delivering the proposed Spitalgate Garden Village.
- Such developments typically have long lead in times therefore, even if a site was identified, it would be unlikely to make a significant contribution towards the housing requirements of the District.
- Amending the settlement hierarchy to include a new settlement or garden village is the most appropriate course of action given the scale of housing growth to be provided within the District.
- This should be considered in the wider sub-regional housing market area context, not in isolation.

Next Steps

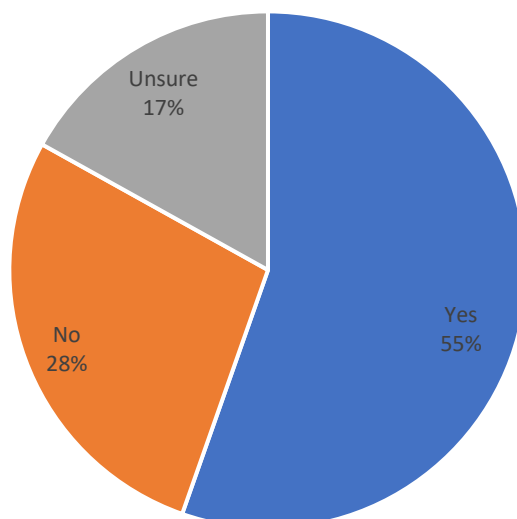
2.24 General agreement that the settlement hierarchy should be retained in the new Local Plan and support to the Settlement Hierarchy Methodology. The proposal of a new community on garden village principles did not receive much support.

2.25 It is proposed to utilise the existing settlement hierarchy as the basis for determining the spatial distribution of growth through the Local Plan Review. The Council will undertake a survey of services and facilities to review and determine those settlements forming the Larger Villages set out in Policy SP2.

Proposal 6 – Housing Need and Requirement

QUESTION 6 – Housing Need and Requirement

Do you agree with the use of 754 dwellings per annum as the identifying housing need and requirement for South Kesteven? If not, what evidence do you have to justify an alternative need and requirement?



2.26 There were 85 responses to Q6. 36 respondents agreed with the proposal, 18 disagreed, 11 were unsure, and 20 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.27 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with the housing need and requirement the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Any housing should be accompanied by infrastructure and local provisions improvements and meet needs of people.
- Need to encompass a better mix of smaller allocations and larger strategic allocations to allow greater flexibility and certainty in meeting the Authority's local housing need figures.
- Should be capitalising on buildings we already have not providing new, and should consider re-designating buildings that are for non-domestic to domestic use.
- Should be based upon a robust and defensive evidence base for housing need.
- The 754 dpa figure should be viewed as a minimum.
- Plan for the increased housing need outlined within Standard Method 2 (839 dwellings per annum) as a minimum.
- The Council should seek to go beyond the LHN set out by national policy and be ambitious about making up for lost time due to its previous poor rates of delivery.

- The Council will need to keep its housing figure under review as the Government revises its standard calculation method.

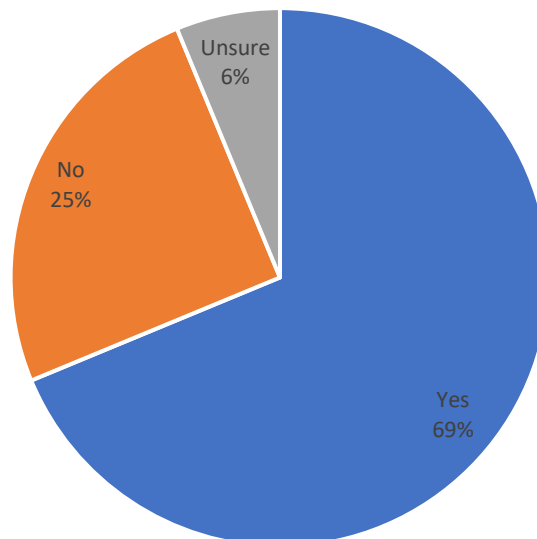
Next Steps

- 2.28 General support for the proposal for housing need and requirement but comments have been made to increase the Local Housing Need above national policy. The standard methodology is the starting point for housing numbers. The Council intends to update the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

Proposal 7 – Distribution of Growth

QUESTION 7a – Focus of Housing Growth on Grantham

Do you agree that Grantham should remain as the focus for growth in South Kesteven? If not, please provide details and any alternative proposals.



2.29 There were 72 responses to Q7a. 44 respondents agreed with the proposal, 16 disagreed, 4 were unsure, and 8 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

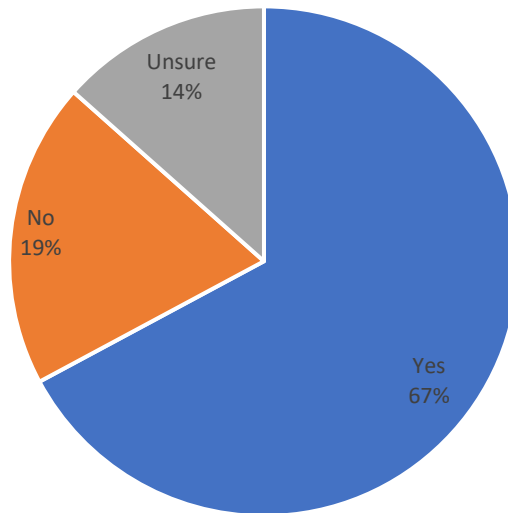
2.30 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Grantham remaining the focus for growth in the new local plan the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Grantham has been priority growth area which is disproportionate and should be distributed better
- Continued focus on Grantham would have impact on infrastructure including water supply and sewerage infrastructure and would need additional power and utilities to support further growth
- Grantham has best transport provision and network infrastructure (East Coast Mainline, A1, GSRR), widest range of services for being best placed for larger growth
- Villages should also be explored for further growth by increasing allocations in larger and smaller villages as the focus of Grantham is disproportionate
- There should also be flexibility in other locations.
- Housing distribution should account for the needs of settlements and constraints
- Should have a more dispersed pattern of development There should be consideration of re-designating buildings that are for non-domestic to domestic use

QUESTION 7b – Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings

Do you agree that Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings should remain as a focus for growth? If not, please provide details and any alternative proposals.



2.31 There were 76 responses to Q7b. 45 respondents agreed with the proposal, 13 disagreed, 9 were unsure, and 9 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.32 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings remaining the focus for growth in the new local plan the some of the following issues were raised by a number of respondents:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Growth should be balanced and take account of needs and constraints of settlement
- Priority should be given to the delivery of sustainable sites within towns and edge of settlement extensions.
- Most suitable approach would be for the Local Plan to identify and deliver housing allocations which the Neighbourhood Plan process can then assist and support with the local level detail required at a later stage.
- Continued focus on Stamford, Bourne, and the Deepings would have greater impact on water supply and sewerage infrastructure and the receiving Water Recycling Centres for these settlements and more limited impacts elsewhere in the plan area.
- Infrastructure constraints, possibility of future climate changes and, flooding with further growth
- Towns and Villages without current allocations should be primary focus of new allocations.
- There should be restraint around The Deepings, Bourne and Stamford.

The Deepings

- Whilst the Deepings may be considered an appropriate place for development, it is important that in addition to improving the infrastructure, provision of open space and recreational open space is given priority.

Stamford

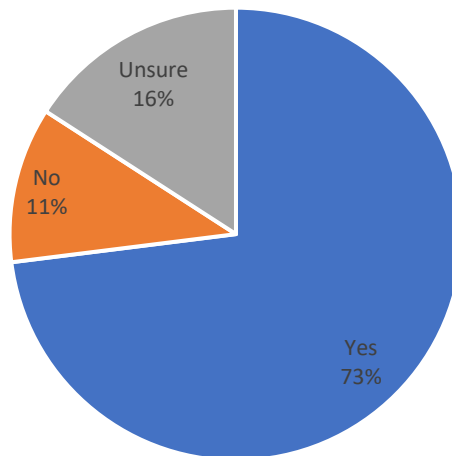
- Stamford should not be a focus for growth beyond the levels planned for 2036.
- Further growth will put unacceptable pressure on infrastructure, including roads, unique assets, character/history.

Bourne

- Disagreement with the Bourne Neighbourhood Plan allocating land for development
- Bourne allocations should be revisited.
- Further development in Bourne is not justified and will put pressure on already overstretched infrastructure.

QUESTION 7c – Larger Villages

Do you agree that it is still appropriate to plan for a level of housing growth across the Larger Villages within South Kesteven where there a range of available services and facilities? If not, please provide details and any alternative proposals.



2.33 There were 66 responses to Q7c. 46 respondents agreed with the proposal, 7 disagreed, 10 were unsure, and 3 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.34 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 7c the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

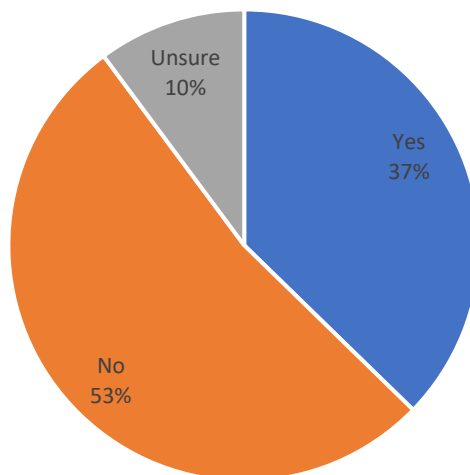
Issues Raised through Consultation

- A continued focus on the larger villages as defined would have a greater impact on water supply and sewerage infrastructure and the receiving Water Recycling Centres for these settlements and more limited impacts elsewhere in the plan area.
- Growth should take account of needs of particular settlements and constraints rather than rolling forward the existing pattern
- Consideration should be given to Neighbourhood Plans to also identify sites and all Neighbourhood Plans to come forward.

- The Interim SA shows little justification for continued development in larger villages.
- A more dispersed the pattern of development will also diversify housing land supply (HLS) and optimise housing delivery, all villages should have an equal share of the 10% allocated.
- Larger Villages could accommodate more than 10% of the proposed requirement.
- Share the developments with those larger villages where little or no development has taken place recently.
- Needs to be understanding of current facilities and services and development to meet needs of the settlement.
- Additional housing and population should not further compromise the settlement's nature and character.
- Larger Villages support housing delivery, service provision, and viability of a village. Increasing distribution of housing in Larger Villages will help to balance the housing trajectory as more deliverable short term offsetting slower delivery of strategic allocations in Towns.

QUESTION 7d – Other Settlements

Do you agree that it is not appropriate to make allocations in smaller settlements within South Kesteven whilst recognising that some development will occur through “windfalls”? If not, please provide details and any alternative proposals.



2.35 There were 63 responses to Q7d. 22 respondents agreed with the proposal, 31 disagreed, 6 were unsure, and 4 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.36 There were a number of comments received in response to question 7d and the key issues can be summarised as follows;

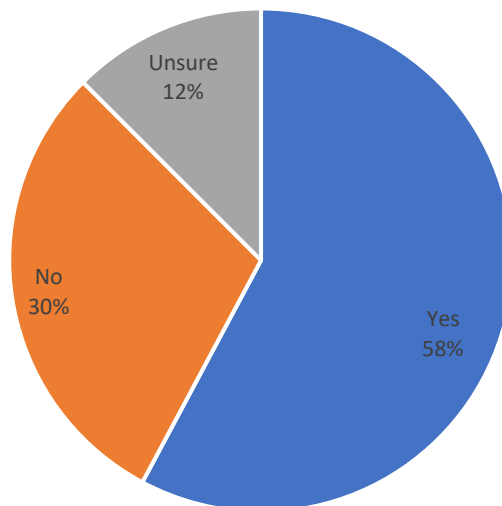
Issues Raised through Consultation

- Smaller villages need more development to support existing services

- Both routes through to the delivery of housing should be properly explored at the Plan Making stage – allocation and windfall sites.
- Smaller settlements provide opportunities for allocations, increasing housing choice, availability and support overall housing delivery – growth in these villages would also be supported by NPPF (2019) para 78.
- Concerns over not making allocations in smaller settlements
- Important that the Plan allows for modest, but sensitive development within small villages
- A more dispersed the pattern of development will also diversify housing land supply (HLS) and optimise housing delivery
- It may be acceptable to allocate housing development in smaller settlements that fulfil Zero Carbon criteria, with the agreement of the Parish Council.
- Do not consider that relying on existing commitments and windfall represents aspirational growth or sustainable development Plan decisively, supporting growth in smaller villages through appropriate allocations in these locations.
- Policy needs to enable other village location sites and more flexibility
- Policies SP2 and SP3 are restrictive and will not facilitate sufficient windfall development within villages to either meet the Council’s vision or to meet the latest Framework requirement
- Covid-19 impacts could demand further growth to villages

QUESTION 7e – Consideration of the Market and Deliverability*

Do you agree that market capacity and deliverability should be considered before determining what growth to distribute to which area?



2.37 There were 74 responses to Q7c. 37 respondents agreed with the proposal, 19 disagreed, 8 were unsure, and 10 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.38 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 7d the following issues were raised by a number of respondents:

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Housing growth levels needs to be considered along with employment and amenities.
- The plan should not seek to reinforce such concerns in locations where there is an identified need for new homes and other forms of development. Planning policy should seek to overcome blocks to necessary development, not impose a new constraint.
- These measures should feature significantly in the strategic housing market assessment, together with development constraints (at a sub-district/ settlement specific level).
- There is no point building if there is no demand and from a sustainability perspective it would be counterintuitive.
- The two large SUEs in Grantham could effect saturating that particular market and slow delivery rates, additional sites should be allocated to increase choice of homes in different parts of the town.
- A holistic approach is needed - decisions should not be based on whether a developer can sell houses they build.
- Needs to be analysis of delivery and need and the methodology that applies to allocations
- Specific growth scenarios can limit the scope for sustainably located opportunity sites to come forward to meet needs.
- Spatial distributions of housing across district should be considered.
- Local Plan should allocate homes in Bourne not the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Market should not be the sole driver, impacts on need should be considered.
- Need to consider enough short term sites are being allocated for delivery early in Plan period.
- More appropriate housing allocations will need to be considered.

Next Steps

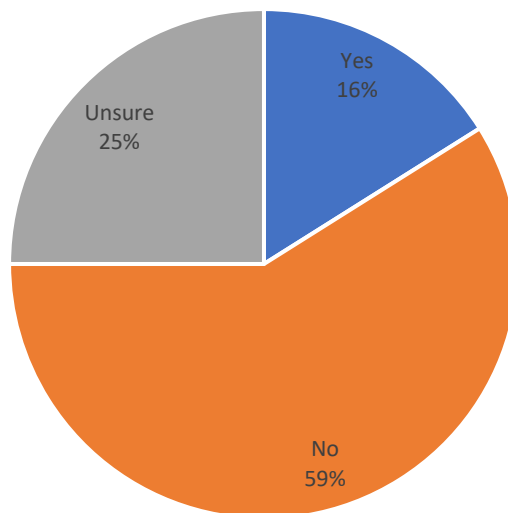
2.39 The responses to the distribution of growth were in support of the current focus of growth toward Grantham, Market Towns, and Larger villages. However, the response towards other settlements included the provision of opportunities for allocations and development in smaller settlements to diversify housing supply, delivery and choice.

2.40 It is proposed that a settlement hierarchy will be retained but services and facilities of villages is currently under review through a Village Audit to ensure that villages are in the correct category.

Proposal 8 – Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation

QUESTION 8 – Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation

Are you aware of any specific needs for Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Showpeople accommodation in South Kesteven and suitable sites to meet these needs, and is it appropriate to accommodate identified needs within any existing Local Plan allocations? If yes, please provide details.



2.41 There were 61 responses to Q8. 9 respondents agreed with the proposal, 33 disagreed, 14 were unsure, and 5 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.42 There were a number of comments received in response to question 7d and some of the key issues are summarised as follows;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Sites should be made available across the district not focused on one area.
- Urgent need to update the 2016 GTAA
- Need to allocated land to meet the need identified in 2016 and future needs
- Need to recognise land use hard to locate in urban settlements, use of more appropriate rural locations
- Concerns that the Local Plan does not identify suitable land for future pitch or plot allocations
- Should be a 5 year supply of land of deliverable sites to accommodate identified needs
- The Local Plan fails to address the needs of Gypsy and Traveller community
- Current lack of provision need for review no sites/pitches/plots currently identified.
- The need to meet the GTAA recommendations is greater than the quality of the development
- Accommodation needs to be identified in consultation with the Gypsy and Traveller community
- It is not appropriate for larger allocations to accommodate Gypsy and Traveller accommodation

- Overcrowded conditions on Council owned site – inadequate small/ cramped pitches
- Need for more private sites witnessed by current appeals
- It is appropriate to accommodate identified needs within the existing Local Plan allocations if appropriate
- The necessity to meet the needs of the GTAA seems to override the local plan and its criteria in respect of Gypsy and Travellers.

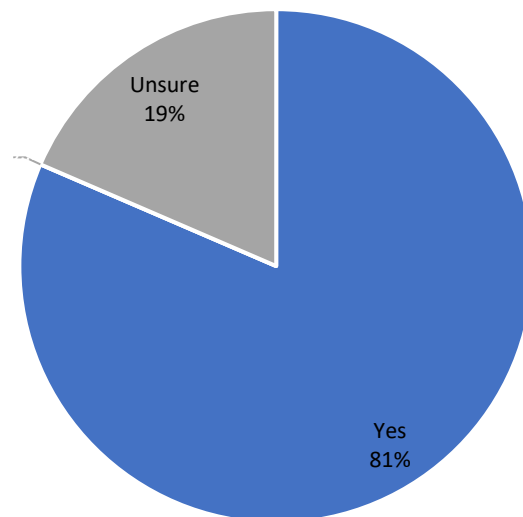
Next Steps

- 2.43 An updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment is being undertaken as part of the Local Plan review to identify needs. This evidence will be published to support the emerging Local Plan review and findings will be addressed through the new plan.

Proposal 9 – Revisions to the Employment Policy

QUESTION 9a – Strategic Employment Allocations

Do you agree that the strategic employment allocations set out in Policies E1 and E2 should be brought forward into the new Local Plan unless strong and robust evidence suggests that they are no longer suitable or deliverable? If not, please provide details.



2.44 There were 57 responses to Q9a. 44 respondents agreed with the proposal, 0 disagreed, 10 were unsure, and 3 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

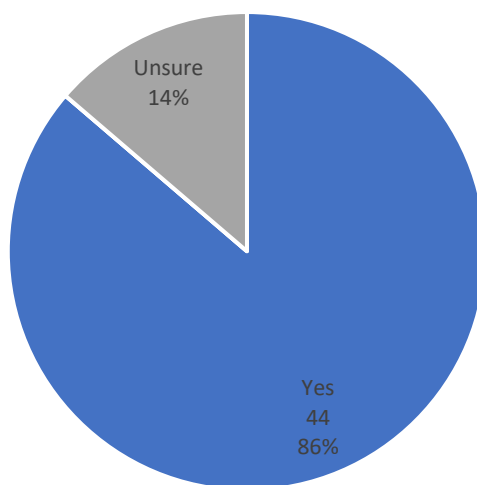
2.45 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 9a below are some of the issues raised by respondents;

- Ensure balance between employment growth in towns with housing allocations to ensure sufficient opportunities for local people.
- Support to carrying forward employment allocations and designated employment sites.
- The 2015 Employment Land Study needs to be updated to understand needs of the area and ensure it remains appropriate and deliverable
- Review the current allocations insofar as it is necessary to ensure that their flexibility for use is not compromised by surrounding uses
- Existing allocated employment stock should be re-evaluated and determine how it should proceed into the future to reflect market needs and working practices whilst being accessible.
- Commercial office needs post COVID are likely to be reduced, land should be reduced accordingly for such use and allocated to other uses.
- Covid-19 has changed employment land and retail market sustainability.
- Development must be of a scale which is appropriate for the site's location and limitations, whilst responding to changing circumstances including clear marketing evidence regarding deliverability

- Should re-consider Policy STM3 of the adopted Site Allocations and Policies DPD / E2 of the adopted Local Plan for a mixed use urban extension at the site now known as Exeter Fields, to reduce the scale.
- There is limited employment allocations identified in the north or northwest of Grantham that would support economic growth in these areas in accordance with Paragraph 8 of the revised framework (2019).
- Employment land policies should be revisited in the context of current market demand and need.
- The Local Plan should consider long term and land use implications, flexible working patterns, smaller employment sites
- Exception of the part of a field added to the GRE-SE1 was not carried out with robust and transparent analysis of its suitability set against landscape, economic, topography and set against the gateway vision.

QUESTION 9b – Other Employment Allocations Increasing Flexibility on Established Employment Areas

Do you agree that other employment allocations set out in Policy E3 should be reviewed taking account of an updated Employment Land Study? If not, please provide details



2.46 There were 55 responses to Q9b. 44 respondents agreed with the proposal, 0 disagreed, 7 were unsure, and 4 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.47 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 9b the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Innovate and develop employment opportunities as a priority, not increase housing.
- Allocation DEP-E1 currently appears unlikely to be deliverable in the short/medium term and should be removed and considered as potential housing allocation.

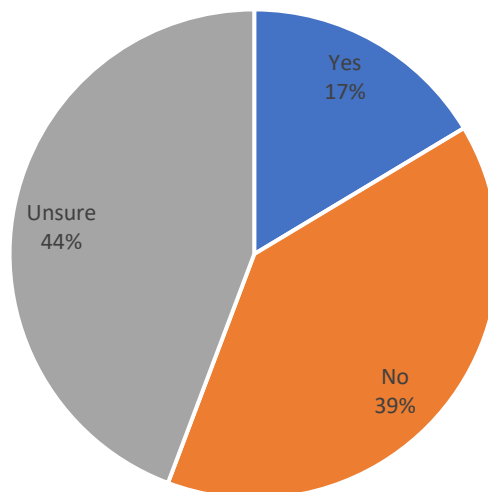
- It is important that the Employment Land Study does not result in de-allocation of any part of the Prince William of Gloucestershire Barracks
- Updates need to account for Covid-19 impacts Village hubs for home working should be supported
- Employment policies should provide flexibility and innovation to employment land delivery
- Review of employment land study to determine need suitability and availability of existing employment land allocations

Next Steps

- 2.48 There was strong support to the proposals in relation to employment and the comments received will be reviewed alongside the employment land evidence which is being reviewed as part of the Local Plan review. This will include an evaluation of employment demand by use type and suitability of current and proposed employment sites within the district.

QUESTION 10 – Climate Change Policies

Are the existing policies in the adopted Local Plan sufficient to meet current and future challenge of climate change? If not please provide details of what would be new or revised planning policies that the Council could consider through the review of the Local Plan.



2.49 There were 66 responses to Q10. 10 respondents agreed with the proposal, 24 disagreed, 27 were unsure, and 5 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.50 There were a number of comments received in response to question 7d and some of the issues raised are summarised below;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Existing policies should be reviewed and strengthened to reflect and address latest Government strategies and Council’s declared Climate Change Emergency to meet future challenges and becoming carbon neutral.
- More energy saving should be incorporated into design to advert climate change including solar panels/ground source energy
- Opportunities for holistic and integrated approach to water management should be included within the plan
- Policies should be updated to refer specifically to recently published Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/20 relating to cycle infrastructure design and standards for new development
- Reflect on new sustainable building technologies
- Developments should be designed for increased walking/accessible green spaces/water-neutral/Grey water usage built into all developments
- There should be a commitment to eliminating climate change and zero carbon emissions, instead of statements like ‘minimising the effects of climate change’

- Policies of the Local Plan will require amendment in the light of the implications of the Environment Bill and the Government’s Future Homes Consultation.
- Local Plan policies to be amended to reflect statutory requirement to achieve a 10% net gain in biodiversity value.
- Home should be near where employment is, with sustainable transport links wherever possible.
- Further action on reduction of carbon emissions by 80% should be outlined. The current plan does not demonstrate how the policies and actions will reduce CO2. There is no specific robust policy in line with this requirement in our opinion.

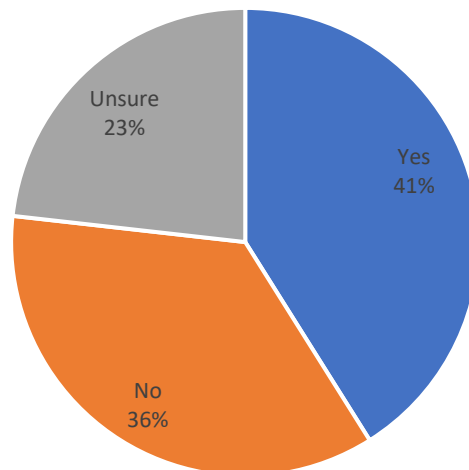
Next Steps

2.51 Comments and concerns are focussed on seeking to address the climate change and future challenges of climate change within the existing Local Plan policies. The Council declared Climate Change Emergency in 2019 the key objective of the Local Plan is to reduce the carbon reduction and develop planning policies which will support and mitigate the impact of climate change which will be addressed through the review of the plan, taking into consideration comments received.

Proposal 11 – Energy Performance Standards

QUESTION 11a – Energy Performance Standards in Residential Development

Do you think that the new Local Plan should require higher energy performance standards than are required by the building regulations for residential development, up to Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes?



2.52 There were 58 responses to Q11a. 23 respondents agreed with the proposal, 20 disagreed, 13 were unsure, and 2 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

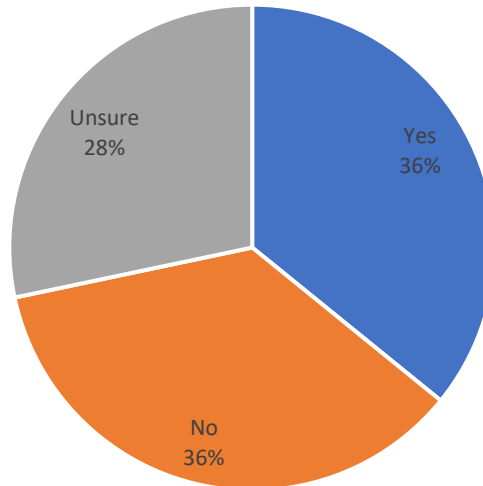
2.53 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 11a the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Code 4 does not exist anymore.
- The word 'equivalent' needs adding as the Code for Sustainable Homes is no longer mandated
- Leave this to the Building regs but create 'eco house' policy encouragement for 'off grid' houses.
- More needs to be followed to avert the climate change which we are all currently experiencing.
- Best practice for the type of development should be the aspiration.
- Energy performance standards should be as per the current Building Regulations.
- The new Local Plan should not require higher energy performance standards than established by building regulations for residential development.

QUESTION 11b – Energy Performance Standards in Non-Residential Development

Do you think that the new Local Plan should require higher energy performance standards in non-residential development and if so what standards should be required?



2.54 There were 54 responses to Q11b. 19 respondents agreed with the proposal, 19 disagreed, 15 were unsure, and 1 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.55 There were a number of comments received in response to question 11b and the key issues to each Policy can be summarised as follows;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Thermal heating, water harvesting and other renewables sources will need to be considered but provision could be made to encourage their installation by discounts in other areas or planning requirements.
- All new housing/industrial units should be built to be energy neutral.
- More needs to be followed to avert the climate change which we are all currently experiencing
- Best practice for the type of development should be the aspiration
- Welcome higher standards for residential and non-residential development bearing in mind the urgent need to tackle climate change. However the Council will need to satisfy itself that this will not unduly affect the deliverability of the plan.
- Setting energy performance standards is always problematic, given that these are negotiable through the development management process on the basis of development viability. If higher standards could be supported by a robust evidence base then it may be appropriate to include these within the reviewed Local Plan.
- Promote and support higher energy efficiency standards, consideration could be given to mechanisms and incentives to support the provision of homes that surpass building regulation standards. Consideration could also be given to policy outside the energy efficiency regulations

QUESTION 11c – Viability Implications of Higher Energy Performance Standards

If you think the Plan should do either of the above, do you have any evidence to demonstrate that requiring higher energy performance standards would or would not be viable? If so please provide this evidence. Alternatively, do you have any suggestions whereby other developer contributions might appropriately be reduced, in order to ensure development remains viable?

2.56 There were 20 comments received in response to question 11c and some of the key issues are summarised below;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Code 4 does not exist anymore
- More needs to be followed to avert the climate change which we are all currently experiencing
- welcome higher standards for residential and non-residential development bearing in mind the urgent need to tackle climate change
- flexibility would need to be retained to ensure that higher energy performance requirements do not affect the viability and deliverability of schemes, resulting in under provision of other contributions, including affordable housing.
- No awareness of relevant evidence. If higher standards are sought it will be necessary to support these by way of a robust study and analysis.
- The design life of buildings is important to consider.
- Developers could also be asked to contribute toward energy-saving measures in the local community as part of the practice of granting planning permission.
- SKDC can build zero carbon homes such as other local authorities
- Viability is relative should be part of cost and profit calculations. It is feasible to assume that higher energy performance requirements add to build costs of proposals, particularly where they exceed building regulation requirements

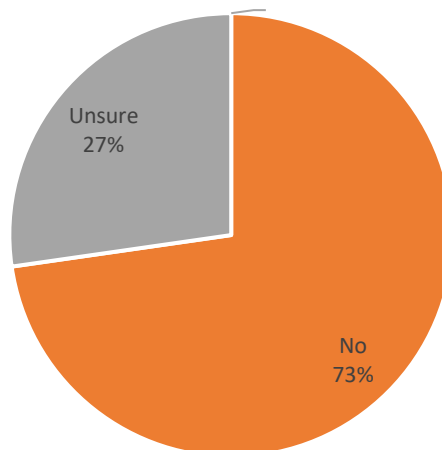
Next Steps

2.57 The NPPF and national guidance on energy standards will be taken into account through the Local Plan review, as well as the consultation comments received through the consultation will be considered through the Local Plan review.

Proposal 12 – Need for Caravan Accommodation

QUESTION 12 – Need for Caravan Accommodation

Are you aware of any need for sites for caravans in South Kesteven? Any evidence to support your comments would be welcome or suggestions as to how such need could be identified in South Kesteven.



2.58 There were 46 responses to Q12. 0 respondents agreed with the proposal, 32 disagreed, 12 were unsure, and 2 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.59 There were a number of comments received in response to question 12 and the key issues to each Policy can be summarised as follows;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- Clarification on type of caravan use.
- No awareness of demand
- Necessary to support the demand by way of robust study and analysis of need and demand.
- Larger and permanent sites can be intrusive visually, and proposals should perhaps best be dealt with on an exceptional basis on their merits with specific controls, rather than via allocation. Small-scale rural schemes can work well.

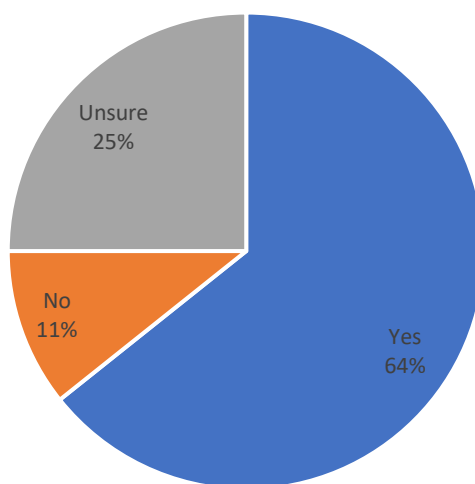
Next Steps

2.60 The Housing and Planning Act 2016 requires the periodical review of the need for sites to accommodate caravan accommodation e.g. park homes/mobile homes. The need for caravan accommodation will be considered through the review of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

Proposal 13 – Parking Standards

QUESTION 13 – Parking Standards

Do you agree that minimum parking standards are needed in South Kesteven? Please provide any further comments you may have, such as in relation to what the standards should be or where they should apply to.



2.61 There were 60 responses to Q13. 36 respondents agreed with the proposal, 6 disagreed, 14 were unsure, and 4 provided comments but did not respond to the yes/no question.

2.62 Whilst the response to yes/no question implies the general agreement with Question 13 the following issues were raised by a number of respondents;

- Parking restrictions discourage people from visiting town centres
- More demand for off-road parking for residents in new developments for safe pavements and parking in new developments
- Greater non vehicle connectivity links should be provided to encourage walking and cycling
- Local needs to be taken into consideration
- House builders should be encouraged to use modern methods for quality sustainable homes to reduce carbon footprint of developments and the costs for residents going forward.
- Encourage economic growth and support climate change policies – more electric charging points in line with Government announcements.
- Oppose introduction of minimum levels of parking policy would be inconsistent with existing ID2 risks car dependency.
- There must be an impact study on these plans to ensure that rural communities are not disadvantaged.
- Not considered minimum parking standards are helpful in delivering development

- Minimum parking standard guideline should be provided and acknowledged that different parking levels may be required in different areas.
- Any Parking Standards Policy introduced by the LPR should be consistent with 2019 NPPF (paras 105 & 106) and supported by robust evidence justifying its necessity for managing the local road network.
- Planning for minimum parking standards could lead to an over provision of parking spaces when development is considered in the context of the extent of the plan period to 2041.

Next Steps

2.63 The Comments received and further evidence will be considered through the preparation of the draft Local Plan. Any standards proposed will be incorporated into the whole plan viability assessment.

Any other comments

QUESTION 14 – Any Other Comments

Is there anything else you would like to raise – has anything been missed, or are there any general comments you would like to make?

2.64 There were 55 comments received in response to question 14 and the issues raised are noted below;

Issues Raised through Consultation

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Allocations | • Infrastructure |
| • Biodiversity net gain | • Nature Recovery Network (NRN) |
| • Blessed Hugh Moore School allocation | • Open Space studies |
| • Climate change | • Public toilets |
| • Wind and solar energy | • Recycling centre in Stamford |
| • Council housing | • Role of Bourne Neighbourhood Plan |
| • Design SPD | • Self and custom build |
| • Energy Performance standards | • Sustainable waste/Recycling policy and practice paper |
| • Environment policies | • Town Centres |
| • Extensive Urban survey | • Transport infrastructure |
| • Government strategies for electric vehicles | • Tree strategy |
| • Grantham Canal | |

Next Steps

2.65 Comments will be considered where appropriate to the review of the Local Plan.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 Overall, the Issues and Options Consultation proved to be successful in generating interest and gathering views and evidence to underpin the review of the Local Plan.
- 3.2 The representations submitted provided much support to the proposals in the consultation and additional comments to clarify the position. All the comments received during this consultation will be considered further when developing policies and evidence to inform the review of the Local Plan.
- 3.3 The Local Plan review will now focus on the development of evidence to inform policy within the Local Plan. The timetable for the local plan can be viewed below

LP Review Stage	Proposed Date
Commencement of Document Preparation	April 2020
Issues and Options + Call for sites Consultation (Regulation 18)	October 2020
Draft Consultation on Local Plan Review (Regulation 18)	August 2022
Pre Submission Consultation (Regulation 19)	April 2023
Submission to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	December 2023
Public Examination (Regulation 24)	January 2024
Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	November 2024
Adoption (Regulation 25)	December 2024

Appendix 1 – Full Representations (Separate Document)

Appendix 2 – Representations and Officer Response (Separate Document)

Appendix 3 – Consultation Notices

Public Notice



South Kesteven District Council Local Plan Review

**Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)
The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012**

**Notice of publication of the South Kesteven Local Plan Issues and Options
Report (October 2020) for public Consultation**

South Kesteven is seeking comments on the Local Plan Issues and Options Report (October 2020).

The current Local Plan for South Kesteven was adopted in January 2020 and sets out the development strategy for growth of the District to 2036. The Inspector's final report on the current [Local Plan \(2011-2036\)](#) commits the Council to undertake an early review of the Local Plan from April 2020 with submission by the end of December 2023. The Council has begun the process of preparing a new Local Plan for the District, which will set out the planning framework for the District over the next 20 years up to 2041. The review enables necessary updates of evidence, and the Council to consider whether its local housing need has changed and needs to be re-evaluated taking into consideration changes to national planning guidance.

The timetable for the review of the Local Plan is anticipated to be examined from January 2024 and adopted in January 2025, until the review has been undertaken and a new Local Plan is found sound and adopted by the Council, the current Local Plan (2011-2036) will continue to be the development plan for the District and used in determining planning applications.

The Issues and Options consultation is the first opportunity for the local community to become involved in the preparation of the Local Plan Review, which sets out the scope of the key policies and proposals to be considered within the review. Reviewing the plan now can help ensure that it remains up to date and that South Kesteven will continue to grow sustainably, meeting the needs of its residents and businesses whilst protecting what is special about the area. At this stage, the Issues and Options consultation is not a statement of the Council's proposed planning policies but a statement of intention as to what planning policies may need to be reviewed and updated. The Issues and Options paper asks a series of questions which will help the Council determine the scope and content of the Local Plan review.

As part of the Local Plan Review, the Council has also prepared a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which is published for comment alongside the consultation paper.

Consultation on the Issues and Options Report will run from **Monday 12th October 2020 to 11.59pm Monday 23rd November 2020.**

Appendix 3 – Consultation Notices

The documents, along with further details of the consultation, are available for inspection from **Monday 12th October** on the Council' website;
<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15134>

Hardcopies are not currently available at the Districts Council Offices and local libraries due to Covid-19 and will only be available for inspection online at the Council's website. This is in line with the guidance on reviewing and updating the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), and new legislation which has now come into force for local development documents (amending, on a temporary basis, regulations 35 and 36 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) until 31st December 2020. However, if you do require a paper copy of the Consultation paper or Response form please contact a member of the Planning Policy Team at planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk or call 01476 406080.

Representations should focus on the questions asked in the Issues and Options Report and be submitted via email or post using the Response form available on the Councils website.

Please submit your comments before 11.59pm on Monday 23rd November by;

Email: planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk.

Post: Planning Policy, South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St Peters Hill, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 6PZ. In light of concerns regarding Covid-19 we are encouraging people to submit their representations electronically wherever possible to help limit spread of the infection. The return of forms via email is therefore preferred.

Please note copies of all comments will be made available for the public to view, including the name of the stakeholder who submitted the representation therefore, your response cannot be treated as confidential. However, the Council will not include any personal addresses or signatures.

Notification Letter



Dear Sir or Madam,

Date: Thursday 8th October 2020

PLANNING POLICY CONSULTATIONS

South Kesteven Local Plan Review – Issues and Options Report - Public Consultation

South Kesteven District Council is undertaking its first public consultation on the review of the Local Plan between **Monday 12th October 2020 and Monday 23rd November 2020**.

The current Local Plan for South Kesteven was adopted in January 2020 and sets out the development strategy for growth of the District to 2036. The Inspector's final report on the current [Local Plan \(2011-2036\)](#) commits the Council to undertake an early review of the Local Plan from April 2020 with submission by the end of December 2023. The Council has begun the process of preparing a new Local Plan for the District, which will set out the planning framework for the District over the next 20 years up to 2041. The review enables necessary updates of evidence, and the Council to consider whether its local housing need has changed and needs to be re-evaluated taking into consideration changes to national planning guidance.

The timetable for the review of the Local Plan is anticipated to be examined from January 2024 and adopted in January 2025, until the review has been undertaken and a new Local Plan is found sound and adopted by the Council, the current Local Plan (2011-2036) will continue to be the development plan for the District and used in determining planning applications.

The Issues and Options consultation is the first opportunity for the local community to become involved in the preparation of the Local Plan Review, which sets out the scope of the key policies and proposals to be considered within the review. Reviewing the plan now can help ensure that it remains up to date and that South Kesteven will continue to grow sustainably, meeting the needs of its residents and businesses whilst protecting what is special about the area. At this stage, the Issues and Options consultation is not a statement of the Council's proposed planning policies but a statement of intention as to what planning policies may need to be reviewed and updated. The Issues and Options paper asks a series of questions which will help the Council determine the scope and content of the Local Plan review.

As part of the Local Plan Review, the Council has also prepared a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which is published for comment alongside the consultation paper.

Appendix 3 – Consultation Notices

Consultation responses should focus on the questions asked in the consultation paper using the response form available on the Council's website.

Please return completed forms by **11.59pm Monday 23rd November 2020** to planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk

Forms can also be returned to Planning Policy, South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St Peters Hill, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 6PZ. However, in light of concerns regarding Covid-19 we are encouraging people to submit their representations electronically wherever possible to help limit spread of the infection. The return of forms via email is therefore preferred.

The documents, along with further details of the consultation will be available for inspection from Monday 12th October on the Council website;
<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15134>

Hardcopies are not currently available at the Districts Council Offices and local libraries due to Covid-19 and will only be available for inspection online at the Council's website. This is in line with the guidance on reviewing and updating the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), and new legislation which has now come into force for local development documents (amending, on a temporary basis, regulations 35 and 36 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) until 31st December 2020. However, if you do require a paper copy of the Consultation paper or response form please contact a member of the Planning Policy Team at planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk or call 01476 406080.

Please note copies of all comments will be made available for the public to view, including the name of the stakeholder who submitted the representation therefore, your response cannot be treated as confidential. However, the Council will not include any personal addresses or signatures.

If you wish to comment on the consultation paper, please ensure that your comments are received by the Council by 11.59pm Monday 23rd November 2020 otherwise your response may not be considered.

Please also note, an ongoing Call for Sites process is running alongside this consultation, if you have not been contacted directly further information can be found on the Councils website.

<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15135>

Yours sincerely,

Roger Ranson

Roger Ranson – Head of Planning Policy