



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

South Kesteven Local Plan 2011 - 2036

Settlement Hierarchy Update



SOUTH
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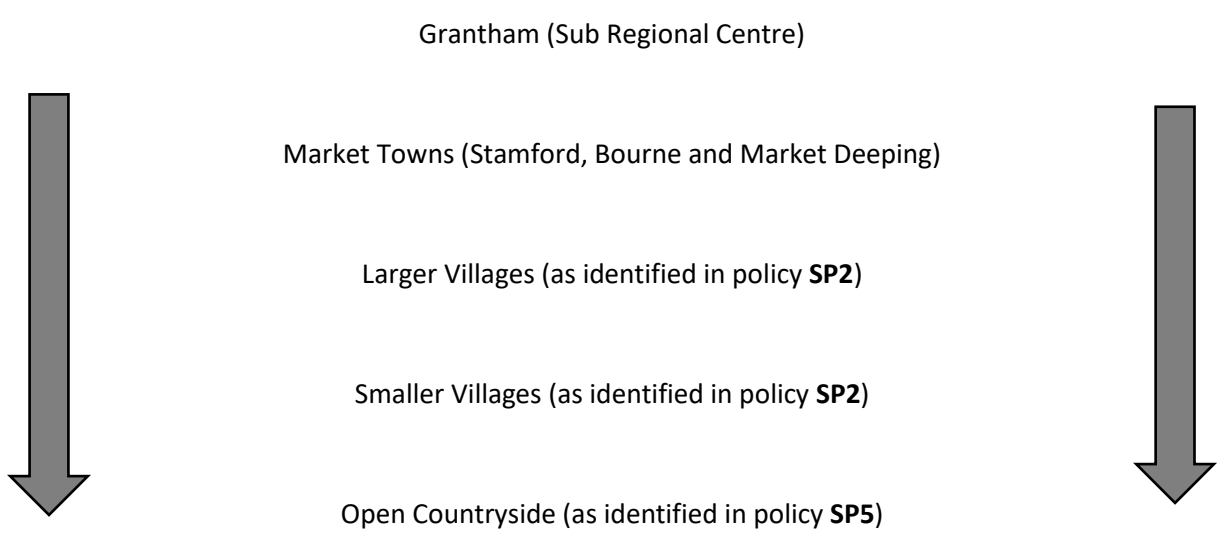
Background

This report has been prepared as supplementary evidence for the South Kesteven Local Plan ([CD1](#)) and follows on from the Settlement Hierarchy Review & Village Audit Survey of 2017 ([HOU 5](#)).

The background of this report is to provide additional evidence to support the emerging policy **SP2** of the South Kesteven Local Plan, which sets out the ‘Settlement Hierarchy’, for the district. Policy **SP2** influences where development can occur and what types of development is appropriate in each location by grouping settlements together based upon the size and available services or facilities.

Through the South Kesteven Local Plan Examination, a main modification was proposed to include an additional tier of settlements into policy **SP2** known as “Smaller villages “. This report will demonstrate a robust and justifiable approach to identifying which settlements are to become “Smaller villages” under policy **SP2**.

The proposed settlement hierarchy for the district in the new Local Plan is as follows;



Local Plan Examination and Main Modifications

The South Kesteven Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State on January 15th, 2019, and Hearing Sessions were conducted by independent Inspector David Spencer BA (Hons) DipTP MRTPI in May 2019. Sections 20 and 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended, inter alia, by the Localism Act 2011) make provision for modifications to be made to the submitted Local Plan, before it is adopted.

A main modification is an amendment which is considered necessary to make the Submitted Local Plan ‘sound’, and therefore enable the Local Plan to be adopted. A Local Planning Authority must ask the Inspector to recommend such main modifications. South Kesteven District Council asked the Inspector to recommend modifications within a letter sent to the Inspector on 11 March 2019 ([EX/SKDC/11](#)).



Whilst the Inspector can recommend ‘main modifications’, it is also common practice for the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to suggest what those main modifications could be. The reasons why the Local Planning Authority might suggest such main modifications are:

- The Local Planning Authority itself has spotted something in (or missing from) the Submitted Local Plan which appears to be ‘unsound’, and wishes the Inspector to recommend a modification to correct it; and/or
- As part of the ongoing examination process, it appears to both the Inspector and the Local Planning Authority that an amendment is necessary and therefore, the Inspector asks the Local Planning Authority to suggest as to what an amendment might be.

Throughout the examination, the Council decided that it needed to amend policy **SP2** and the settlement hierarchy in order to coherently identify a defined list of “Smaller villages”. The council suggested this change through Matter Statement 2 ([M2.01](#)). The Council proposed that the defined list of “Smaller villages” would lead on from the Larger villages section, under its own separate bullet point. The modification will result in a more defined list of ‘Settlements’ to which other policies such as **SP3** and **SP4** can be better applied. The following change was acknowledged by the Inspector in the published action points following the examination ([EX/INS/21](#)) as **AP13**, and is identified as main modification (**MM12**) in the schedule of main modifications and also in **Appendix 2** of this report. .

[Settlement Hierarchy Review and Village Audit Survey 2017](#)

The Settlement Hierarchy Review and Village Audit Survey of 2017 was produced as a core piece of evidence to inform policy **SP2** of the Local Plan. The review focused primarily around the top 20 settlements within the district and used a scoring methodology to identify the most suitable settlements to be known as “Larger Villages” within the settlement hierarchy.

The scoring methodology was based around a Village Audit Survey conducted in November 2015, in which a “*village services and facility questionnaire*” was distributed to all Parish Councils across South Kesteven seeking to identify the provision of services and facilities in each area. This was subsequently refreshed again in 2017, but only for the top scoring 20 villages within the district. Additional information including the scoring system and audit survey can be found in the Settlement Hierarchy Report (HOU 5) within the Councils Local Plan Examination Library.

While the 2017 review does refer to “Smaller Villages”, it only identifies that there will be an overall change to policy within these locations and gives no defined list.

[Settlement Hierarchy Review Update 2019](#)

The purpose of this update is to identify a list of ‘Smaller Villages’ for the proposed modification to policy **SP2**. Therefore, all remaining villages, hamlets and rural areas (excluding the already identified “Larger villages” and Market Towns) throughout the district have been reviewed using a new methodology. Those villages deemed suitable will be assigned as a “Smaller village” with all other areas around the district being classified as open countryside and will therefore be subject to policy **SP5** of the Local Plan.



Methodology

While a scoring methodology was used during the original Settlement Hierarchy Review and Village Audit Survey of 2017 the update has used a range of different methods in order to determine those settlements classified as “Smaller Villages”.

Due to a distinct lack of evidence surrounding the remaining 126 identified settlements, a variety of different parameters have had to be set. The basis of the methodology has been built from desktop-based assessments and any remaining evidence obtained from the villages that responded to the audit survey in 2015. It was decided that each village would be assessed against 3 criteria which were as follows;

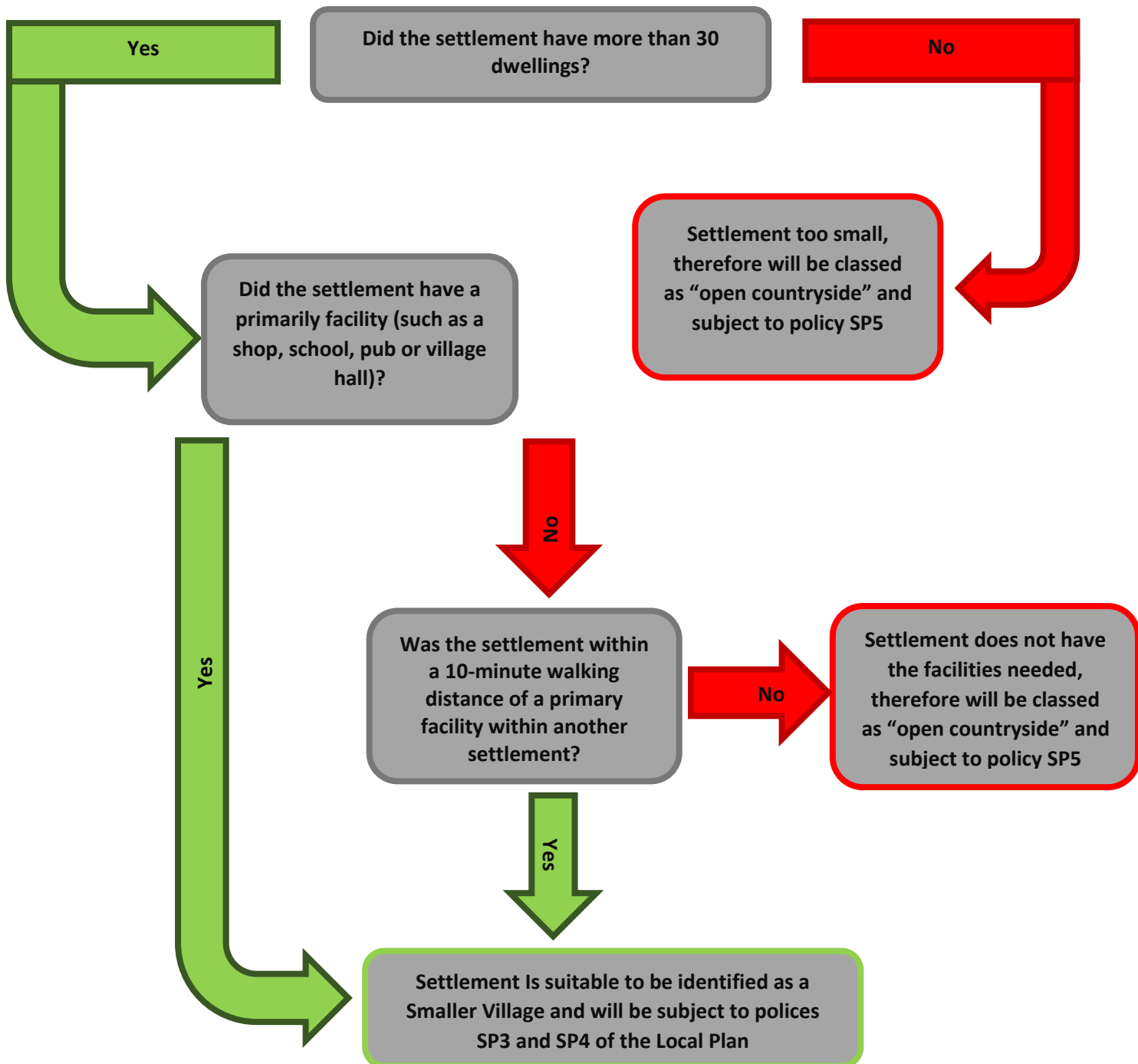
Criteria 1) - The settlement has more than 30 dwellings.

Criteria 2) - The settlement has at least one primary facility. A primary facility was assessed to be one of the following;

- Public House
- Village Hall
- Shop
- Primary School

Criteria 3) - The settlement is within a 10-minute walking distance from another settlement with a primary facility would be considered suitable due to proximity.

The following flow chart has been designed to highlight the process;



Of the **126** settlements assessed in the settlement hierarchy update, a total of **60** settlements have been deemed suitable to be allocated as a “Smaller Village”. A full breakdown of settlement details can be found in **Appendix 1**.



Proposed list of smaller settlements

Using the criteria, the following settlements have been classified as “Smaller Villages;”

| Using the identified methodology, the following list of settlements have been identified under policy SP2 as “Smaller Villages.” Identified “Smaller Villages” which will be subject to emerging Policy’s SP3 + SP4 | | |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aisby | Frognall | Pointon |
| Allington | Fulbeck | Rippingale |
| Aslackby | Greatford | Ropsley |
| Barholm | Great Ponton | Sedgebrook |
| Belton | Haconby | Skillington |
| Braceborough | Hanthorpe | Stubton |
| Boothby Pagnell | Horbling | Sudbrook |
| Burton Coggles | Hougham | Swayfield |
| Carlby | Hough on the Hill | Swinstead |
| Carlton Scroop | Ingoldsby | Syston |
| Castle Bytham | Irnham | Twenty |
| Claypole | Kirkby Underwood | Toft |
| Denton | Lenton | Tallington |
| Dowsby | Little Bytham | Uffington |
| Dry Doddington | Manthorpe (Bourne) | Welby |
| Dunsby | Marston | Westborough |
| Dyke | North Witham | Witham on the Hill |
| Edenham | Oasby | West Deeping |
| Folkingham | Old Somerby | Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth |
| Foston | Pickworth | Woolsthorpe By Belvoir |

“Smaller Villages” will be under main modification subject to comment through the Main Modification consultation process. (see **MM12** in the Schedule of Main Modifications or **Appendix 2**)



Note 1 - The villages of Frieston and Northorpe have been included as a separate modification to SP2 within the “Larger Villages” as they are adjoining the villages of Caythorpe and Thurlby respectively.

Note 2 – Settlements of Manthorpe (Grantham) and Harrowby have been identified as part of the Sub Regional Centre as they adjoin Grantham.



Appendix 1 – List of assessed settlements.

| Settlement | More than 30 Dwellings | Primary Facility (Pub, Village Hall, School, Shop) | Within a 10-minute walking Distance to a primary facility | Suitable to be identified as a "Smaller Village" |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|---|--|
| Aisby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Allington | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Aslackby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Aunsby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Barholm | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Bassingthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Belmesthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Belton | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Birkholme | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Birtherpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Bitchfield | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Boothby Pagnell | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Braceborough | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Braceby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Brandon | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Bridge End | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Bulby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Burton Coggles | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Careby | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Carlby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |



| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Carlton Scroop | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Casewick | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Casthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Castle Bytham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Cawthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Claypole | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Clipsham* | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Cotham | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Counthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Cranwell* | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Creton | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Croxton Kerrial* | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Denton | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Dowsby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Dry Doddington | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Dunsby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Dyke | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Easton | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Edenham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Elsthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Fenton | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Folkingham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Foston | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Frognall | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Fulbeck | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Gelston | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Gosberton Clough* | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Graby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Great Humby | ✗ | / | / | No |



| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Great Ponton | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Greatford | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Grimsthorpe | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Gunby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Haconby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Hanby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Hanthorpe | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Hawthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Heydour | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Holywell | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Honington | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Horbling | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Hough On the Hill | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Hougham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Hungerton | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Ingoldsby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Irnham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Keisby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Kirkby Underwood | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Laughton | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Lenton | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | Yes |
| Little Bytham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Little Humby | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Little Ponton | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Lobthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Londonthorpe | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Lound | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Lower Bitchfield | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Manthorpe (B) | ✓ | ✓ | / | No |
| Marston | ✓ | ✓ | / | No |
| Millthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |



| | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Muston* | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Newstead | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Normanton | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| North Witham | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Oasby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Obthorpe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Old Somerby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Osgodby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Pickworth | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Pointon | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Rippingale | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Ropsley | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Sapperton | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Sedgebrook | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Sempringham | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Skillington | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Stainby | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Stainfield | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Stenwith | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Stoke Rochford | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Stowe | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Stroxton | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Stubton | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Sudbrook | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Swayfield | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Swinstead | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Syston | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | Yes |
| Tallington | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Toft | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Twenty | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |



| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Uffington | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Welby | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| West Deeping | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| West Willoughby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Westborough | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Westby | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Wilsthorpe | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | No |
| Witham On the Hill | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Woodnook | ✗ | / | / | No |
| Woolsthorpe By Belvoir | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth | ✓ | ✓ | / | Yes |
| Wyville Cum Hungerton | ✗ | / | / | No |

*The following villages are not located within our district, however may have a postal address which is located within the Boundary of South Kesteven.



Appendix 2 - Main Modification 12

| New MM Reference (ordered by page number) | Section of Proposed Submission Version | Sub Section/Policy | Paragraph | Page No. | Proposals Map Ref. | Proposed Main Modification | Justification | SA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------|---|---------------|----------|----------|--------|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|--------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----|
| MM12 AP13 | 2. Planning Policies for South Kesteven | SP2 Settlement Hierarchy | N/A | 51 | N/A | <p>Modification to bullet 3 of Policy SP2 to include the following text; and modification of Thurlby and Caythorpe to include the adjoining villages of Northorpe and Frieston respectively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Larger Villages as defined below, in addition to allocations, development proposals which promote the role and function of the Larger Villages, <u>and will not compromise the settlement’s nature and character</u>, will be supported. <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ancaster</td> <td>Barkston</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barrowby</td> <td>Baston</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Billingborough</td> <td>Caythorpe <u>and Frieston</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colsterworth</td> <td>Corby Glen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Great Gonerby</td> <td>Harlaxton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Langtoft</td> <td>Long Bennington</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Morton</td> <td>South Witham</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Thurlby <u>and Northorpe</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Modification of policy to identify a defined reference list of “smaller settlements” which were assessed through the Settlement Hierarchy Review of 2017. This would lead on from the larger villages section under its own separate bullet point.</p> | Ancaster | Barkston | Barrowby | Baston | Billingborough | Caythorpe <u>and Frieston</u> | Colsterworth | Corby Glen | Great Gonerby | Harlaxton | Langtoft | Long Bennington | Morton | South Witham | Thurlby <u>and Northorpe</u> | | To include directly adjoining villages to the villages of Thurlby and Caythorpe | Yes |
| Ancaster | Barkston | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barrowby | Baston | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Billingborough | Caythorpe <u>and Frieston</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Colsterworth | Corby Glen | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Gonerby | Harlaxton | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Langtoft | Long Bennington | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Morton | South Witham | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thurlby <u>and Northorpe</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



- In the Smaller Villages as defined below, development will be supported in accordance with Policy SP3, SP4 and all other relevant policies, where development will not compromise the village's nature and character.

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Aisby</u> | <u>Frognall</u> | <u>Rippingale</u> |
| <u>Allington</u> | <u>Fulbeck</u> | <u>Ropsley</u> |
| <u>Aslackby</u> | <u>Greatford</u> | <u>Sedgebrook</u> |
| <u>Barholm</u> | <u>Great Ponton</u> | <u>Skillington</u> |
| <u>Belton</u> | <u>Haconby</u> | <u>Stubton</u> |
| <u>Braceborough</u> | <u>Hanthorpe</u> | <u>Sudbrook</u> |
| <u>Boothby Pagnell</u> | <u>Horbling</u> | <u>Swayfield</u> |
| <u>Burton Coggles</u> | <u>Hougham</u> | <u>Swinstead</u> |
| <u>Carlby</u> | <u>Hough on the Hill</u> | <u>System</u> |
| <u>Carlton Scroop</u> | <u>Ingoldsby</u> | <u>Twenty</u> |
| <u>Castle Bytham</u> | <u>Irnham</u> | <u>Toft</u> |
| <u>Claypole</u> | <u>Kirkby Underwood</u> | <u>Tallington</u> |
| <u>Denton</u> | <u>Lenton</u> | <u>Uffington</u> |
| <u>Dowsby</u> | <u>Little Bytham</u> | <u>Welby</u> |
| <u>Dry Doddington</u> | <u>Manthorpe (Bourne)</u> | <u>Westborough</u> |

For clarity regarding which villages policies SP3 and SP4 apply to.



| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | <u>Dunsby</u> | <u>Marston</u> | <u>Witham on the Hill</u> | | |
| | | | | | | <u>Dyke</u> | <u>North Witham</u> | <u>West Deeping</u> | | |
| | | | | | | <u>Edenham</u> | <u>Oasby</u> | <u>Woolsthorpe By Colsterworth</u> | | |
| | | | | | | <u>Folkingham</u> | <u>Old Somerby</u> | <u>Woolsthorpe By Belvoir</u> | | |
| | | | | | | <u>Foston</u> | <u>Pickworth</u> | | | |
| | | | | | | | <u>Pointon</u> | | | |