



Statement of Community Involvement November 2025



**North
Lincolnshire
Council**

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Introduction

What is a Statement of Community Involvement?

Planning affects everyone in some way – the homes we live in, the open spaces we enjoy, the leisure facilities we use and the roads we travel on. Therefore, it is important that local people understand the planning process and have the chance to get involved in contributing ideas and influence planning decisions.

To achieve this, there is a legal requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)¹ for the Council to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how it will effectively involve local people in the planning process. It includes details on how and when community involvement will take place and who will be consulted in the preparation of plans and in decision-making on planning applications.

Under regulation 10A of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)² local planning authorities must review local plans, and Statements of Community Involvement at least once every 5 years from their adoption date to ensure that policies remain relevant and effectively address the needs of the local community. As the last SCI was adopted in August 2018, the Council is now reviewing it as required.

Government policy, set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, December 2023) places significant emphasis on community engagement. It states, “Plans should be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan-makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees”.³

North Lincolnshire Council’s first SCI was drawn up as part of the Local Development Framework system and adopted in April 2006. It was reviewed in 2009 with a revised version adopted in July 2010. A further SCI was drafted and published in March 2018 to address changes in legislation regarding consultation requirements. Since these SCIs were prepared and published, changes to legislation have taken place, including the way in which consultation can be undertaken.

The SCI shows the methods that will be used to encourage and facilitate participation at the different stages of the Local Plan preparation and encourages community involvement at the early stages when ideas are being developed. The methods of community involvement used will depend on the document in question and the stage of preparation. The use of electronic communication tools (email, social media and the web) will be a central element in ensuring that the Council continues to consult, involve and engage with its communities and stakeholders in the plan making process, whilst making best use of the resources available.

The SCI also sets out a commitment to consultation on planning applications, in particular those considered to be major planning applications. Local planning authorities are required to undertake a formal period of public consultation prior to

¹ [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#) – section 18

² [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#) – Regulation 10A

³ [National Planning Policy Framework \(2023\)](#) – paragraph 16

deciding a planning application. For major applications, developers should seek to undertake community engagement as part of the process of preparing them.

Community Involvement – Planning Policy

The Council must prepare a Local Plan to shape the future growth and development of North Lincolnshire. The plan sets out where new homes and employment opportunities should be developed as well as strategic and non-strategic policies to help guide sustainable development and determine planning applications. Effective community engagement and involvement is an essential part of the process of plan-making.

Figure 1 shows the different stages of plan preparation. This is a minimum required by the regulations⁴, although the Council can carry out additional consultations if there is a need to.

The more effective the engagement with communities in the planning process, the less likely they are to feel their needs are not being met in local planning decisions. It must be recognised that this is a two-way process and community involvement is crucial in the preparation of Plans. The Council also produces a Consultation and Engagement Strategy⁵ which is annually reviewed and will also be referred to at each stage in the plan making process to ensure the Council utilises its available resources. Where possible, community engagement will take place alongside other similar consultation exercises in the area.

A Local Development Scheme (LDS) has been prepared which sets out the timetable for the preparation of the Local Plan and other Development Plan documents. The current LDS covers the period from 2025-2027 and can be viewed on the Council's website⁶.

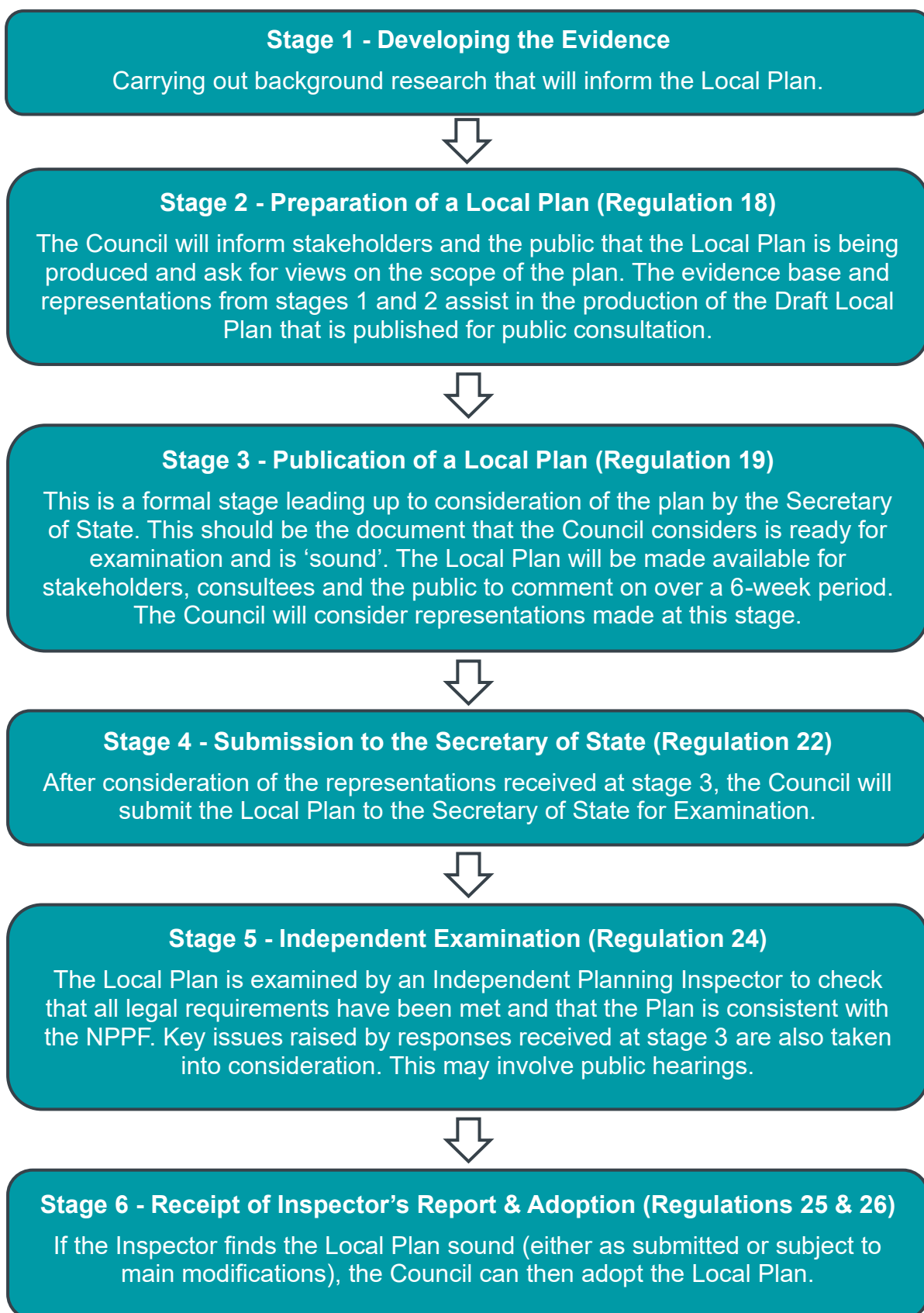
Different consultation methods may be more suitable at different stages of the plan making process, and it will depend on the type of document being consulted on at the time as to the type of consultation undertaken. The stages and methods of consultation are set out in Table 1 and the different types of planning documents that may be consulted on are set out in more detail.

⁴ [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) – Part 6

⁵ [Consultation and Engagement Strategy 2023 - 2026 - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](https://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

⁶ [A New Local Plan | North Lincolnshire Council](https://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

Figure 1 Key stages of Local Plan preparation



Development Plan Documents: The Local Plan

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) are planning policy documents that make up the Local Plan and set out the statutory framework for the future development of a local authority area. These include area action plans and site-specific allocations. DPDs address the needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure, as well as providing a basis for conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment, mitigating and adapting to climate change, and achieving well designed places. It is essential that Local Plans are in place and kept up to date. Any planning document (other than Neighbourhood Plans) that seeks to allocate sites for development must go through the DPD process including an Examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

Legislation sets out that each local planning authority must identify strategic priorities for the development and use of land and have policies to address these priorities in their development plan documents (taken as a whole)⁷. The development plan for an area is made up of the combination of strategic policies which address the main priorities for an area, and non-strategic policies which deal with more detailed matters. Since 2012, the Government has promoted the approach of replacing multiple development plan documents with a single Local Plan, wherever appropriate. Therefore, within North Lincolnshire it is proposed to replace the existing Local Plan ‘saved policies’ (2003), Core Strategy (2011), Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPD (2016) and Lincolnshire Lakes AAP (2016) with a single updated Local Plan. This approach is reflected in the Council’s updated Local Development Scheme.

Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood planning was introduced by the Localism Act 2011⁸. It gives local communities the opportunity to develop their own policies and guidance for development and land uses in their areas. The local authority must provide advice and assistance to parish Councils, neighbourhood forums and community organisations producing a neighbourhood plan and take decisions at key stages in the process in line with time limits that apply⁹. When a neighbourhood plan is adopted or “made”, it will form part of the statutory development plan.

Sustainability Appraisal

A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) must be undertaken as part of the Local Plan process¹⁰. The purpose of the SA is to assess the social, environmental and economic impacts of the plan and consider reasonable alternatives. In doing so it will help ensure that Local Plan policies contribute towards achieving sustainable development objectives.

The first stage of the SA is the production of a Scoping Report, which will identify the key sustainability issues for the area. Following the Scoping Report, subsequent versions of the SA are produced to accompany each stage of the plan making

⁷ [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk) – section 19

⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/6/chapter/3> – Localism Act 2011, Part 6, Chapter 3

⁹ [Neighbourhood planning - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) – National Planning Practice Guidance, The role of the local planning authority in neighbourhood planning

¹⁰ [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk) – section 19(5)

process and are published for consultation at the same time. The SA should also incorporate a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Habitat Regulations Assessment

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)¹¹ (commonly abbreviated to the Habitats Regulations) require local authorities to assess the impact of development plans on the network of European sites comprising Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. This requirement is delivered via a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which comprises a series of mandatory tests. The NPPF refers to these protected European sites collectively as ‘Habitats sites’. HRAs carry out an assessment of whether a plan or project will significantly affect the integrity of any Habitats site, in terms of impacting the sites conservation objectives. The HRA is prepared and consulted on as a statutory requirement of the Local Plan.

Evidence Base

Other evidence base documents will also be prepared to support the Local Plan, and whilst not subject to formal public consultation, can be commented on and the Council will respond accordingly. These documents include the:

- Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA)
- Employment Land Review (ELR)
- Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA)
- Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

Duty to Co-operate

The Localism Act 2011 introduced the Duty to Co-operate¹². It requires local planning authorities and a number of other public bodies to engage with each another in the Local Plan preparation process. North Lincolnshire Council has a close working relationship with its neighbours and other key bodies and organisations. The Council will continue to meet and work with neighbouring authorities as well as the organisations listed in Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly those that relate to strategic priorities.

Supplementary Planning Documents

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are detailed guidance documents that assist in the interpretation and application of Local Plan policies and proposals. They are material considerations in the decision-making process and give guidance to the public, applicants and developers when making planning applications. The preparation of SPDs will include community and stakeholder involvement. A draft SPD will be published for public consultation for a minimum of four weeks in line with regulations¹³. They are not subject to independent examination but are adopted by the Council. The stages and methods of consultation of SPDs are set out in Table 2.

¹¹ [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

¹² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/section/110> - Part 6, Chapter 1, section 110

¹³ [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) – Part 5

Who Will Be Involved?

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 require all Councils to meet a minimum level of community involvement when producing their Local Plans. These regulations also specify a number of organisations that must be consulted if it is considered that they will be affected. A list of specific consultees and general consultees can be found in Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees of this SCI.

The North Lincolnshire Council's Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026¹⁴ also sets out the aims and objectives of meaningful consultation and engagement across the organisation. Within the context of the Local Plan process, this strategy states that when carrying out consultations the Council must engage with its residents, vulnerable and seldom heard groups, community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils and businesses.

Residents

North Lincolnshire residents and individuals who have expressed an interest in the Local Plan and have their details stored in our database will be notified of Local Plan and related document consultations. To ensure as many residents as possible are notified of consultations, including those not included on our database, the Council may also advertise consultations via the website, social media and press release. Elected Members and Town and Parish Councils will also play a role in promoting consultation to residents as set out below.

Elected Members

North Lincolnshire Council's elected members (43 in total) have an essential role in the Local Plan process as representatives of the people and making decisions in the public interest on a number of issues including decisions during the preparation of the Local Plan. They can assist in community engagement and will be engaged throughout the process and helping to disseminate information about the development of the local plan. Councillors are able to advise the Council on the issues important to the area they represent.

Town & Parish Councils

The views of the Town and Parish Councils are crucial in identifying community priorities. North Lincolnshire has 56 Town or Parish Councils as listed in Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees. They are consulted at each stage in the Local Plan preparation process. Regular engagement with Town and Parish Councils allows the Council to get the views of large sections of local communities. Where appropriate, they will be asked to assist in promoting consultation exercises.

Voluntary Sector

Consultation with the voluntary and community sectors is crucial in reaching community groups. The sector helps give a voice to the community through specialist knowledge of client groups and allows the Council to develop improved relationships with those groups.

¹⁴ [Consultation and Engagement Strategy 2023 - 2026 - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](https://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

Hard to Reach Groups

Government guidance suggests that the Council should seek to involve hard to reach groups in preparing their Local Plans. This will help the Council to promote and develop partnership working and ensure that the views of these groups are taken into consideration in the preparation of the Local Plan. The following groups are considered by the Council as hard to reach groups; young people, minority ethnic groups, people with disabilities and learning difficulties, the elderly, rural residents, women's groups, gypsies and travellers and armed forces personnel. North Lincolnshire Council will seek to engage with these groups throughout the planning process where practicable.

Professional/Commercial Sector

Other groups such as local organisations, agents, developers and businesses are also crucial to the delivery of balanced planning decisions. These groups usually have specialist knowledge of issues and priorities and their participation in the planning process allows the Council to make better informed and balanced decisions.

Methods of Consultation

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 set out the Government's requirements for consultation through the plan making process. The stages and methods of consultation that North Lincolnshire Council will use in the preparation of the Local Plan are set out in Table 1. Examples of consultation methods are also included in Appendix 2 – Community Involvement Methods.

The Council's preference is to use email when notifying people of consultations, as well as receiving comments in an electronic format. The Council will make extensive use of email and the dedicated Local Plan website¹⁵. This will improve the speed in which the Council can engage with the public as well as reduce costs. For those without personal access to the internet, this facility is available at community hubs and branch libraries throughout the area¹⁶.

The Council is happy to receive comments and responses by post but will be unable to acknowledge these without an email address. It is hoped that respondents will appreciate the benefits that electronic communication can bring for all parties.

Feedback

Providing feedback to participants in the planning process is an integral part of policy preparation. The Council will fully consider representations received during consultation exercises and incorporate changes to planning documents if necessary. The Council will engage in further discussions to assist those making comments on planning policy if requested.

A consultation statement will be published on the Council's website following each stage of consultation, summarising the consultation undertaken and the comments received from consultees. Respondents will also be informed of subsequent consultation stages and the adoption of the policy document.

¹⁵ <https://localplan.northlincs.gov.uk>

¹⁶ [Find us - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](https://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

Table 1 Local Plan and DPDs methods of consultation

Stage	Consultation Length	What the Council will do (statutory requirements*)	What the Council may do (non-statutory requirements)
<p>Stage One</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report</p> <p>Consultation under reg 12(5) and 12(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</p>	<p>5 weeks</p>	<p>Initial consultation on the scope and level of detail that must be included in the appraisal will be undertaken with statutory consultation bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England, and Historic England). The Council will consult via email and invite consultees to make representations.</p>	<p>Undertake suggested methods of consultation as set out in North Lincolnshire Council's <i>Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026</i> where appropriate. Methods of consultation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct notifications to other internal and external stakeholders via email. • Publish information on the Council's website. • Deposit documents for public viewing in the Council's principal office and other locations considered appropriate. • Seek representations via an online survey/response form • Arrange meetings with interested internal and external consultees where appropriate.

<p>Stage Two</p> <p>Preparation of a Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal</p> <p>Consultation under Reg 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>At least 6 weeks</p>	<p>The Council must notify the following consultation bodies (as listed in Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees) of the subject of the Local Plan being prepared and invite them to make representations about what it ought to contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific consultation bodies – those the Council consider may have an interest in the subject of the proposed Local Plan, • General consultation bodies – that the Council consider appropriate to consult; and • residents or other people carrying on business in the Council’s area from which the Council consider it appropriate to invite representations. <p>The Council must take into account any representation made in response in preparing the next draft of the Local Plan and make changes where necessary.</p>	<p>The Council may undertake suggested methods of consultation as set out in North Lincolnshire Council’s <i>Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026</i> where appropriate. Methods of further consultation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice • News Direct article – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year • Seek representations via an online survey/response form • Arrange public consultation events, workshops and stakeholder meetings where appropriate. This may include Ward Members, Town and Parish Councils, Agents and Developers, local residents
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			<p>and businesses (this list is not exhaustive). The location and number of events will depend on the significance and coverage of the issue being consulted on.</p> <p>The Council may make the document available to view in various locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper copies on deposit at the Council’s principal office and other appropriate places such as Community Hubs and libraries during normal office hours. • Publish consultation documents and further information on the Council’s website. <p>Consultation comments received may be published on the Council’s website and a general response from the Council provided.</p>
<p>Stage Three Publication of a Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal</p>	<p>At least 6 weeks</p>	<p>Make available the proposed submission documents, a statement of representations procedure and statement of the fact that the proposed</p>	<p>Undertake suggested methods of consultation as set out in North Lincolnshire Council’s <i>Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026</i> where</p>

<p>Consultation under Reg 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>		<p>submission documents are available for inspection and of the places and times at which they can be inspected.</p> <p>These statements must be sent to each of the general and specific consultation bodies invited to make representations under regulation 18(1).</p> <p>Consultation documents will be made available in line with regulation 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making consultation documents available to view on deposit at the Council's principal office and other appropriate places such as Community Hubs and libraries during normal office hours. <p>Publish consultation documents and further information on the Council's website</p>	<p>appropriate. Methods of further consultation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice • Article within News Direct – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year • Request representations via an online survey/response form • Arrange public consultation events, workshops and stakeholder meetings where appropriate. The location and number of events will depend on the location and significance of the issue being consulted on. <p>Consultation comments received may be published on the Council's website and a</p>
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			general response from the Council provided.
<p>Stage Four</p> <p>Submission of documents & information to the Secretary of State</p> <p>Under Reg 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	N/A	<p>To submit the Local Plan for examination, the Council must send to the Secretary of State electronic and paper copies of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Development Plan Document (Local Plan) • Sustainability Appraisal Report • Submission Policies Map if the adoption of the Local Plan would result in changes to the adopted policies map; • Consultation Statement setting out; who was invited to make representations and how they were invited under regulation 18, a summary of the main issues raised at regulation 18 consultation, how these comments have been taken into account, the number of representations and summary of the main issues raised under 	<p>Representations are not sought at submission stage as comments have been received at previous rounds of consultation and the submission Plan reflects the final Plan the Council believe to be sound and wish to adopt.</p> <p>To notify more people of the submission, the Council may undertake suggested methods of consultation as set out in North Lincolnshire Council's <i>Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026</i> where appropriate. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice • Article within News Direct – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year

		<p>regulation 20, or highlighting if no representations were made at regulation 20.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of any representations made in accordance with regulation 20 • Such supporting documents as in the opinion of the Council are relevant to the preparation of the Local Plan. <p>The Council must make the above documents, and a statement of the fact that these documents are available for inspection and the places and times at which they can be inspected, available in line with regulation 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, as soon as reasonably practicable after submission. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making consultation documents available to view on deposit at the Council's principal office 	
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		<p>and other appropriate places such as Community Hubs and libraries during normal office hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish consultation documents and further information on the Council's website <p>The above 'statement of fact' must be sent to each of the general and specific consultation bodies invited to make representations under regulation 18(1) to notify them of the submission.</p> <p>Notice must also be given to those persons who previously requested to be notified of the submission that this has happened.</p>	
<p>Stage Five Independent Examination</p> <p>Under Reg 24 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>At least 6 weeks before the opening of an examination hearing</p>	<p>For the purpose of giving persons the opportunity to appear before and be heard by the person appointed to carry out the independent examination under section 20 of the Act, the Council must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notify any person who made a representation in accordance with regulation 	<p>The Council may further advertise the independent examination by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notifying all consultees in the Local Plan database via email of upcoming hearing sessions, while making clear that if they did not respond to the regulation 19 consultation they are

		<p>20 and not withdrawn that representation (these are consultees who responded to the regulation 19 consultation) of the date, time and place at which the hearing is to be held, and the name of the person appointed to carry out the independent examination, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make the above matters available in accordance with regulation 35. This includes being made available for inspection at the Council’s principal office and other places the Council consider appropriate during normal office hours and being published on the Council’s website. 	<p>unable to participate in the hearing sessions but can observe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice. • Social media posts. • News Direct article – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year.
<p>Stage Six Publishing the Inspector’s report and Modifications Under Reg 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>As soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of the report of the person appointed to carry out the independent examination (the Inspector’s report), or the direction from the Secretary of State, the Council must:</p>	<p>The Council may further advertise the publication of the Inspector’s report by notifying all consultees in the Local Plan database via email.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the recommendations and reasons for those recommendations available at the Council's principal office and other locations the Council consider appropriate, and on the Council's website (in line with regulation 35), and • Notify those persons who requested to be notified that the recommendations are available. 	
<p>Stage Seven</p> <p>Adoption of a Local Plan</p> <p>Under Reg 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	N/A	<p>As soon as reasonably practicable after the Council adopt the Local Plan, the Council must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the following documents available in accordance with regulation 35; the Local Plan, an adoption statement, the Sustainability Appraisal Report and details of where the Local Plan is available for inspection and the places and times at 	<p>The Council may further advertise the adoption of the Local Plan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notifying all consultees in the Local Plan database via email, which includes Ward Members and Town and Parish Councils who can assist in spreading the news to their constituents. • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice.

		<p>which the document can be inspected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send a copy of the adoption statement to any person who asked to be notified of the Local Plan adoption. • Send a copy of the adoption statement to the Secretary of State. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts. • News Direct article (if timescales align) – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year.
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Table notes

As a minimum documents relating to the whole of North Lincolnshire will be made available to view in hard copy at the Council’s principal office (Church Square House, Scunthorpe) and Scunthorpe Central and other locations where appropriate. Sustainability Appraisal and evidence base documents will be made available in electric format only. Electronic access is available at all Community Hubs and Libraries for those without access to the internet at home. Consultation events may take place in one or more locations depending on the scope and coverage of the document being prepared and scale of the issue.

*As set out by the relevant regulations listed.

Table 2 Supplementary Planning Documents methods of consultation

Stage	Consultation Length	What the Council will do (statutory requirements*)	What the Council may do (non-statutory requirements)
<p>Stage One Prepare Draft SPD</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Evidence to be gathered and the draft document to be prepared.</p>	<p>Seek input from relevant internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>
<p>Stage Two Draft SPD Consultation</p> <p>Under regulation 12 and 13 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>At least 4 weeks</p>	<p>The Council must prepare and make available a copy of the SPD and a consultation statement (setting out the people consulted when preparing the SPD, a summary of the main issues raised and how those issues have been addressed in the SPD) and details of the date by which representations must be made and where, in line with regulation 35.</p> <p>The SPD will be available to view at the Council’s principal office and other places the Council consider appropriate such as Community Hubs and libraries during normal office hours, as well as on the Council’s website.</p>	<p>The Council may undertake further methods of consultation as set out in North Lincolnshire Council’s <i>Consultation & Engagement Strategy 2023-2026</i> where appropriate to increase awareness. Methods of consultation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts • Press release or public notice • News Direct article – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year • Seek representations via an online survey/response form

		<p>Any person may make representations about a Supplementary Planning Document. The Council will notify all consultees listed in Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees via email where the Council believes they may have an interest in the topic of the document.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host public consultation events and meetings with interested consultees where appropriate – this may include Ward Members, Town and Parish Councils, Agents and Developers, local residents and businesses (this list is not exhaustive). <p>Consultation comments received may be published on the Council's website and a general response from the Council provided.</p>
<p>Stage Three SPD Adoption</p> <p>Under regulation 14 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	N/A	<p>The Council will adopt the SPD either as originally prepared or with amendments resulting from consultation representations or any other relevant matters as necessary.</p> <p>As soon as reasonably practicable following the SPD adoption, the Council will prepare an adoption statement and send it to anyone who asked to be notified of the SPDs adoption.</p> <p>The SPD and adoption statement will be made</p>	<p>The Council may further advertise the adoption of the SPD by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notifying all consultees in the Local Plan database via email, which includes Ward Members and Town and Parish Councils who can assist in spreading the news to their constituents. • Press release with local newspapers and radio stations and/or a public notice.

		<p>available in line with regulation 35 at the Council’s principal office and other places the Council consider appropriate such as Community Hubs and libraries during normal office hours, as well as on the Council’s website.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts. • News Direct article (if timescales align) – a free newspaper delivered to all households in North Lincolnshire 3-4 times a year.
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Table notes

As a minimum documents relating to the whole of North Lincolnshire will be made available to view in hard copy at the Council’s principal office (Church Square House, Scunthorpe) and Scunthorpe Central and other locations where appropriate. Sustainability Appraisal and evidence base documents will be made available in electric format only. Electronic access is available at all Community Hubs and Libraries for those without access to the internet at home. Consultation events may take place in one or more locations depending on the scope and coverage of the document being prepared and scale of the issue.

*As set out by the relevant regulations listed.

Community Involvement – Planning Applications

North Lincolnshire Council receives and determines a wide range of planning applications for residential, industrial and commercial developments and environmental issues. The Council also receives applications for other consents covered by planning legislation such as advertisements, listed building and some demolitions. These decisions shape the nature of North Lincolnshire and the areas where people live, work and spend their leisure time. There are many types of planning applications, but the main types are:

- Outline Applications – These allow for a decision on the general outline principles of how a site can be developed, reserving detailed matters for future consideration.
- Reserved Matters Applications – These must be submitted within three years of the approval of an outline application. Reserved Matters include the layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping of a proposal.
- Full Applications – These provide detailed information and plans for the proposal and if approved provide full planning permission from the outset.

Planning legislation¹⁷ sets out the minimum requirements for publicising and consulting the community and stakeholders on planning applications. This section sets out how the council will meet those requirements through the development management process.

North Lincolnshire Council also receives a number of other applications, where there is no statutory duty to publicise these types of applications. These applications include lawful development certificates, notification in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and Restrictions) Regulations 2003, discharge of condition applications for example.

North Lincolnshire Council and Planning Applications

The Council's Development Management team is responsible for dealing with all planning applications for development in North Lincolnshire. This enables the Council to fulfil its statutory duty as the Local Planning Authority to control the development and use of land in the public interest in accordance with the Town and Country Planning and associated Acts. Planning Officers undertake a thorough evaluation of planning proposals against the development plan, national policy, case law and best practice to arrive at a rational and justified recommendation/decision. Planning Officers act as the first point of contact for applications and pre-application enquiries, liaising with and discussing these applications with internal and external bodies and organisations as required.

All planning applications, as required by legislation¹⁸, are determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise (see Figure 2). The development plan for North Lincolnshire currently consists of:

- North Lincolnshire Local Plan – Saved Policies (adopted May 2003)

¹⁷ [Article 15 The Town and Country Planning \(Development Management Procedure\) \(England\) Order 2015](#)

¹⁸ [Section 70 \(20\) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) and [Section 38\(6\) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#)

- Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Development Plan Document (adopted June 2011)
- Local Development Framework – Housing & Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (adopted March 2016)
- Local Development Framework – Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan (adopted May 2016)
- Made (adopted) Neighbourhood Development Plans (Appleby and Worlaby)

The development plan documents listed above, with the exception of Neighbourhood Plans, will be superseded by a new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire once prepared and adopted. This is not the case in relation to adopted Neighbourhood Plans. There is no requirement to review or update a neighbourhood plan. However, policies in a neighbourhood plan may become out of date, for example if they conflict with policies in a local plan covering the neighbourhood area that is adopted after the making of the neighbourhood plan. In such cases, the more recent plan policy takes precedence. In addition, where a policy has been in force for a period of time, other material considerations may be given greater weight in planning decisions as the evidence base for the plan policy becomes less robust.

Most planning applications are determined by planning officers in accordance with the Council's [Scheme of Delegation](#) for Determining Planning Applications¹⁹. However, a number of applications will still need to be determined by the planning committee. The scheme of delegation sets out the circumstances under which this occurs.

Figure 2 Material Considerations

Material considerations can include (but are not limited to):

- **Policy Compliance:** The proposal's alignment with local and national planning policies.
- **Impact on Amenity:** Effects on the living conditions of nearby residents, such as noise, privacy, and overshadowing.
- **Design and Appearance:** The visual impact of the development and its compatibility with the surrounding area.
- **Traffic and Access:** Implications for road safety, traffic flow, and accessibility.
- **Environmental Impact:** Considerations related to pollution, biodiversity, and sustainability.
- **Heritage and Conservation:** Effects on listed buildings, conservation areas, and archaeological sites.
- **Economic Benefits:** Potential job creation and economic growth resulting from the development.
- **Public Opinion:** Written responses from neighbours, statutory consultees, and other interested parties.

¹⁹ The Scheme of Delegation is available on the Council's website, see link under 'Further Information': [The Council's Constitution - North Lincolnshire Council](#)

- It's important to note that purely private interests, such as the impact on property values, are generally not considered material. The local planning authority/Council has the discretion to determine what constitutes a material consideration in each case.

Planning Committee

The Council's planning committee is made up of a number of Councillors who are appointed at the Council's annual meeting that takes place in May each year. Currently the committee consists of eight Councillors. There is a protocol which sets out which applications the committee will deal with and which decisions are entrusted to officers ([scheme of delegation](#)).

Planning Committees are public meetings and members of the public have the right to speak in relation to an application. When an application is to be reported to planning committee, all third parties who have submitted a letter of representation(s) are notified in writing of the date and time of the planning committee meeting and how to register to speak (if they wish to do so). All requests to speak must be registered with Democratic Services²⁰ at least 48 hours before the committee meeting date.

The committee meetings are usually held every four weeks on a Wednesday afternoon. Meetings are held at Church Square House in Scunthorpe (unless otherwise stated) at 2pm and are open to the public. Details about the planning committee and how it operates can be found on the [Council's website](#)²¹.

Role of Councillors

Councillors represent their respective wards. North Lincolnshire is divided into 19 wards with 43 Councillors representing them²². They listen to residents' concerns on planning issues at ward surgeries or public meetings and consultations in addition to residents contacting ward Councillors with specific concerns. They can voice their support or otherwise to planning applications in writing and speak at planning committee. The role of locally elected Councillors in representing the views and concerns of residents in the planning process is very important. Planning committee members should in general avoid organising support for or against a planning application and avoid lobbying other councillors.

A published [good practice guide](#)²³ helps councillors and officers involved in handling applications follow good practice and ensure appropriate levels of probity are observed. Some of the matters covered are declarations of interest and lobbying of councillors, meetings, site visits and applications by members or officers of the council.

How Planning Applications are Publicised

The Council is required by law to publicise planning applications they receive. There is a process of publicity and consultation for most application types (exempt

²⁰ Democratic Services contact details available at: [Council committees - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](#)

²¹ [Democracy | \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#) – Planning Committee details

²² [Councillors - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](#)

²³ <https://democracy.northlincs.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Good-Practice-Guide-2014-Final.pdf>

applications include certificate of lawfulness). Applications are publicised via a site notice which is displayed as close as possible to the proposed development, or a combination of a site notice and a newspaper advert placed in the local press. The exact method of publicity is determined by the relevant regulations²⁴ and different types of application require different methods of publicity. Consultees are also notified by email.

Figure 3 Planning application publicity methods

- Internal and external statutory consultees²⁵ are notified of relevant applications (for example Highways, Environmental Health, Ecology, Conservation and Archaeology or the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board or Natural England)
- Email relevant Ward Members and Town or Parish Council(s) to notify them of the proposed development.
- Email to the relevant adjoining Town or Parish Council(s) and adjacent Local Planning Authorities where strategic development sites border their respective administrative area.
- Site publicity notices and press notices.
- Weekly list of application on the Council's website.
- Publication of application forms, plans and supporting technical documents on the Council's website.

Consultees and neighbours are given 21 days to make a written response, although this can vary for particular types of applications.

If, during the processing of a planning application, material alterations to plans or proposals are made, the Council may re-consult and an additional 7–14 day period will be available to make comments depending on the scale of changes. The same parties will be notified of these changes, in addition to anyone who has already commented on the proposals. In order to avoid unnecessary delay, however, no additional re-notification will be undertaken for minor or insignificant amendments (non-material amendments).

Consultees and members of the public are encouraged to respond online through the [Councils website](#)²⁶. This allows us to process comments more efficiently. Alternatively, comments can be submitted by email or post. All comments to be made in writing must include the author's name and address. The Council cannot have regard to comments which do not provide a name and address.

²⁴ [The Town and Country Planning \(Development Management Procedure\) \(England\) Order 2015 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

²⁵ Schedule 4 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 sets out the statutory consultees to be consulted on different development proposals:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/595/schedule/4/made>

²⁶ www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-permission-applications-and-appeals/

All comments received are public documents and will be made available to view on the council's planning application website. They cannot be kept confidential, although personal information (signatures, email addresses and phone numbers) is redacted.

Pre-Application Advice and Involvement

Pre-application advice is an essential part of providing an efficient and effective planning service. The Council encourages prospective applicants to hold early discussions about their proposals by seeking pre-application advice from the Development Management Team. The NPPF highlights the benefits of front-loading consultation and engagement in the development management process, which enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community.

For developers, the purpose is to give a clear steer about whether it is likely your proposal will be granted planning permission. If we consider it unlikely that planning permission will be granted, we will give you reasons for our opinion. This also provides an opportunity to discuss what may make the proposal acceptable. At this stage we can clarify the level of detail (e.g. supporting statements, reports) we need to help determine the application, as well as what issues need to be addressed and the potential for positive community involvement.

Developers should consider the benefits of involving the local community in developments, which are considered likely to have a significant impact, even though the proposal may fall below the thresholds referred to in the adopted SCI²⁷.

It should be understood that pre-application advice given by officers cannot be binding on the Council, as the final decision on formal planning applications lies with the planning committee or delegated named officers. Decisions will be made following consideration of all relevant planning policy, material considerations and representations received as part of the planning application process.

Planning Performance Agreements

The Council may enter into Planning Performance Agreements (PPA) when dealing with large scale or complex major planning applications. The PPA will set out the commitments of both parties for the gathering of information, consideration of options and the formulation of design proposals, for the effective processing of the planning application. It will also clarify the means of engagement and consultation with the local community, in line with the SCI.

Early Involvement with Communities

Development proposals can, depending on their scale and nature have significant impacts on local communities. The Council encourages developers to engage with relevant stakeholders, including the local community, Ward Members, and Town and Parish Councils at the earliest opportunity.

For development proposals involving the installation of more than 2 wind turbines or where the hub height of any turbine exceeds 15 metres, prospective developers must undertake [pre-application consultation with the local](#) community, as required by the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act

²⁷ <https://localplan.northlincs.gov.uk/sci>

2011)²⁸. The relevant application for permission must demonstrate how account was taken of consultation responses.

Applicants seeking to submit for large-scale major developments are also encouraged to consult local communities before submitting applications (see Figure 4). We expect local communities to be offered the chance to influence proposals in their areas at an early stage through these consultation exercises. A pre-application consultation statement should be submitted alongside the formal planning application. This should describe what engagement took place and how this influenced the final proposal.

It is suggested that community involvement should be undertaken for the following scale of development set out in Figure 4.

Figure 4 Large Scale (major) applications that may require consultation statement

- Residential developments of 50 or more dwellings or a site of 1.5ha.
- Non-residential developments providing 10,000sqm or more of new floorspace, or with a site area of 2ha or more.
- Retail developments providing 2,500sqm or more of new floorspace.
- Applications for data centres, laboratories and gigafactories.
- Applications for large scale renewable energy schemes.
- Minerals and waste proposals.
- Developments requiring Environmental Impact Assessment which are accompanied by an Environment Statement.
- Any development proposals, which may have significant implications for planning policy or the locality.

Any pre-application community consultation should be tailored to suit the circumstances of the site, proposal and locality. The Council's assets and development service area work proactively with developers and offer informal meetings for significant major proposals with the strategic development team, to inform the submission of pre-application advice or planning applications and help bring development forward.

Developers are advised be clear and up front with the community about the stage in the process that the development has reached and what constraints the development has. If there is no opportunity for changing a particular part of a proposal, then this should be made clear and the reasons provided. Consultations should be carried out at an early stage in the design process and allow sufficient time for consideration of the consultation outcomes before drawing up and submission of the application. Local knowledge may be very helpful in improving the quality and deliverability of a scheme.

Developers should carry out appropriate pre-application consultations for major and sensitive proposals based on the following recommended methods:

²⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/6/chapter/4> & <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/61W>

- Meeting with locally elected representatives (Members of Parliament and/or ward Councillors) to brief them on the proposals that are the subject of an application and giving them an opportunity to provide feedback.
- Arranging to attend local Town and Parish Council meetings and/or other relevant community bodies to brief them on the proposals that are the subject of an application and giving them an opportunity to provide feedback.
- Informing local residents and neighbours by “flyer” or letter of the proposal, stating where further details can be found; (this should not just include a website, but also include convenient local access to printed and displayed material).
- Issue a press release on the proposal, with contact details for further information (including both telephone and web/email contact details).
- Arrange a public event (meeting or display) at which their proposals will be explained, giving an opportunity for public comment and later feedback. These should be at a time and location which allows for a wide section of the public to attend, including evening and weekends. The Council can advise on suitable public venues, ways to raise awareness and issues to consider.

The Council has specific statutory time limits in which to determine planning applications, which are set out in [article 34](#) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure (England) Order 2015 (as amended))²⁹ (see Table 3). Where developers have submitted large scale (major) development proposals without undertaking any consultation with the community, this will be explained in the planning officer’s report. Failure to undertake pre-application community consultation will be a material consideration in the determination of the planning application.

Consultation Statement

Where a developer proposing a major development undertakes pre-application consultation with local communities, a consultation statement should be submitted as part of the planning application. As a minimum, the Consultation Statement should include:

- Information about elected members, Town and Parish Councils, residents, businesses and local community groups consulted
- Methods and timing of consultation
- A copy of the consultation details
- Evidence of use of open questions, flexible plans and a range of genuinely different options and choices, including alternative sites
- A summary of all responses received
- Explanation of how public comments have influenced the design of the proposals
- Evidence of how developers have provided feedback to consultees following their responses

²⁹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/595/article/34/made>

- Explanation of what changes have been made as a result of all community comments
- Where suggestions have not influenced the proposed development the developer should state why these suggestions have not led to a change
- Feedback and information on how this was addressed in the development proposal.

The content of this statement will be taken into account when the Council considers the formal application for planning permission and referred to in the officer's assessment and report to planning committee on major applications. Failure to demonstrate that robust consultation has taken place as required by the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011)³⁰ is a material consideration in determining an application.

What Happens Once Decisions Are Made?

Once a decision to grant or refuse planning permission has been made (or if the application has been withdrawn), the parish/town council and anyone who has made a representation will be informed of the decision³¹. The decision notice and the committee or officers report explaining the decision will be published on the council's website. If the decision is made by the planning committee, it is also confirmed in the committee minutes published on the Council's website. A two-weekly list of application decisions (both Committee and delegated) are available via the [Council's website](#)³².

Notification of Planning Appeals

If a planning application is refused, granted with conditions which the applicant considers to be unreasonable, or has not been determined within the appropriate time limit, applicants can lodge an appeal against the decision (or non-determination) to the Planning Inspectorate.

Where an appeal is lodged, the relevant Town/Parish Council and local interest groups and anyone who commented on the proposal will be notified of the appeal, advised of the procedure that will be followed in considering the appeal, and informed on how to make their views known to the appointed Planning Inspector. Any further comments made at this time should be sent straight to the Planning Inspectorate (not the Council) for their consideration.

If an appeal is lodged, all previous representations submitted to the Council are sent to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the normal administration process for planning appeals. Ward Councillors are also individually notified. The majority of appeals are determined through the written representation process, or via an informal hearing procedure managed by the appointed Inspector. For major or more complex cases, the appeal may be determined via Public Inquiry to thoroughly test the evidence.

³⁰ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/6/chapter/4>

³¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/595/article/33/made>

³² <https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-permission-applications-and-appeals/>

For appeals that are decided through an informal hearing or public inquiry, interested parties are also given the opportunity to appear before the Inspector. The Planning Inspectorate will consider the evidence and decide whether the Council's decision was correct, the appeal will then be either allowed or dismissed. The Inspector's decision is binding on the Council, although it can be challenged on a point of law in the High Court.

Table 3 Planning application timescales and modes of consultation

Type of Application	Timescales*	Stages of a planning application and modes of consultation
Minor Applications	8 weeks (from application being validated)	<p>Stage 1 – Submit your planning application</p> <p>On receipt of a valid application, your application will be logged onto our planning system. If you have sent all required documentation as part of your application, this will be validated and acknowledgement will be provided.</p>
Applications for technical details consent and applications for public service infrastructure development	10 weeks (from application being validated)	<p>Stage 2 – Notification and consultation</p>
Major Applications	13 weeks (from application being validated)	<p>Publish details of planning applications on our website, where you can also keep abreast of representations and progress on applications. Representations received will be uploaded as soon as practicable.</p>
Applications requiring Environmental Impact Assessments	16 weeks (from application being validated)	<p>Notify interested parties on relevant planning applications where required by legislation and/or our Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) by email, site notice or press advertisement (as appropriate). This process is known as the statutory consultation and lasts for a period of 21 to 28 days.</p>

		<p>Stage 3 – Determination of planning application</p> <p>The application will be assigned to a Planning Officer who will determine the planning application promptly and within the required timescales whenever possible. The Planning Officer prepares a report summarising the consultation responses and other issues that are all taken into consideration when determining the application.</p> <p>Stage 4 – Decision</p> <p>Once a decision is issued, the decision notice is placed on the Council’s website, and anyone who was consulted or commented on the application will receive confirmation of the decision. Planning officers usually decide smaller development under delegated decision-making powers. Larger and more complex applications can be decided by planning committee.</p> <p>Stage 5 – Option to appeal</p> <p>If planning permission is refused or granted subject to unacceptable conditions you have the right to appeal to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
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*According to the government guidance where a planning application takes longer than the statutory period to decide, and an extended period has not been agreed with the applicant, the government's policy is that the decision should be made within 26 weeks for major applications and 16 weeks for non-major applications (as defined by article 34(2)(b) of the Development Management Procedure 2015). If the applicant has not exercised their right of appeal, and the application remains undetermined after 26 weeks for major applications or 16 weeks for non-major applications, then the fee paid by the applicant will be refunded to them.

Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) were introduced by the [Localism Act](#)³³ in 2011. They are community-led documents, prepared by Town and Parish Councils, or designated neighbourhood forum, which set out the vision and planning policies for the use and development of land in particular neighbourhoods. The Council is committed to supporting the development of neighbourhood plans, as they are an important part of how the local community can be engaged within the planning system and once adopted, form part of the Development Plan used to determine planning applications.

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012³⁴ sets out the statutory requirements for the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and Development Orders. Consultation during the preparation stage of these plans is undertaken by the Town or Parish Council and does not need to meet the requirements of this SCI. The Council are however required to carry out formal consultation in accordance with the [Regulations](#)³⁵. This includes publicising a neighbourhood area, if the designated area differs from parish area boundary, publicising the Neighbourhood Plan Forum Application, if the Parish/Town Council are not leading on the plan, and publicising the neighbourhood plan proposal once submitted to the Council (Regulation 16).

The Council will publicise the proposed submission plan and conduct a six week public consultation exercise in accordance with [Regulation 16](#) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2017³⁶. Copies of these documents will also be available for the local community to view at their local Library or one of our Information, Advice and Guidance Community Hubs.

The Council will appoint an independent examiner to check the plan meets the basic conditions and standards. Comments received during the publicity period on the submitted Neighbourhood Plan will be published and forwarded to the independent examiner to consider, as part of the examination process.

The Council will organise the referendum of any plan deemed to meet the basic conditions. Any person living within the Neighbourhood Area that is registered to vote in local elections will be able to vote on the plan. If more than 50% of the people voting in the referendum support the plan, then the plan will be made (adopted).

³³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents>

³⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/637/contents/made>

³⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/637/regulation/16/made>

³⁶ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1243/made>

Monitoring and Review

The SCI will be monitored and reviewed through the Council's Annual Monitoring Report. This will identify any necessary changes resulting from legislation updates, consultation with the community and stakeholders and unforeseen changes in circumstances or opportunities.

Once adopted, the SCI will be reviewed at least once every 5 years from its adoption date to ensure it remains relevant and effectively addresses the needs of the local community, as required by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)³⁷. The community and stakeholders are usually consulted if any updates or revisions of the SCI are required. This will ensure the document remains appropriate and effective in involving the community in both the preparation of planning policy documents and the determination of planning applications.

Useful contact details are provided in Appendix 3 – Useful contact details should you require further information about the issues covered in this SCI.

³⁷ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/10A>

Appendix 1 – Local Plan Consultees

Table 4 outlines the organisations and other bodies that we are legally required to consult and involve in preparing our planning documents, in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Please note, where the Council considers a specific consultation body may not have an interest in the subject of the Plan or document being consulted on, they may not be consulted in line with regulation 18(2)(a). Similarly, only Duty to Cooperate bodies that are relevant to the area of North Lincolnshire will be consulted, as highlighted below.

This list includes successor bodies where reorganisation may occur and is not exhaustive.

Table 4 Local Plan Consultees

Consultee type	Organisation
<p>Specific consultation bodies *indicates a parish meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining Remediation Authority • The Environment Agency • Historic England • The Marine Management Organisation • Natural England • Network Rail Infrastructure Limited • National Highways • Secretary of State for Transport • Neighbouring Local Authorities - Bassetlaw District Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Kingston upon Hull City Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, West Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council • North Lincolnshire Town and Parish Councils - Barton upon Humber, Bottesford, Brigg, Broughton, Crowle & Ealand,

	<p>Epworth, Kirton in Lindsey & Winterton Town Councils (8 in total) and Alkborough, Amcotts, Appleby, Ashby Parklands, Barnetby-le-Wold, Barrow upon Humber, Belton, Bonby, Burringham, Burton upon Stather, Cadney & Howsham, East Butterwick, East Halton, Eastoft, Elsham, Flixborough, Garthorpe & Fockerby, Goxhill, Gunness, Haxey, Hibaldstow, Holme*, Horkstow*, Keadby with Althorpe, Kirmington & Croxton, Luddington & Haldenby, Manton*, Melton Ross, Messingham, New Holland, North Killingholme, Owston Ferry, Redbourne, Roxby-cum-Risby, Saxby-all-Saints, Scawby, South Ferriby, South Killingholme, Thornton Curtis, Ulceby, West Butterwick, West Halton & Coleby, Whitton*, Winteringham, Wootton, Worlaby, Wrawby & Wroot Parish Councils (48 in total).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjoining Town and Parish Councils • Local Policing bodies within and neighbouring North Lincolnshire - Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Mayor of South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner. • Those owning or controlling electronic communications apparatus in North Lincolnshire and to whom the electronic communications code applies – British Telecom, Virgin Media and Mobile UK (representing the four UK mobile network operators EE, O2, Three and Vodaphone on planning matters) • Integrated Care Boards - Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board • NHS England
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those with a licence under the electricity Act 1989 - Northern PowerGrid and National Grid • Those with a licence under the Gas Act 1986 - Cadent Gas, Northern Gas Networks Ltd and National Grid Gas • A sewage undertaker - Severn Trent Water, Yorkshire Water and Anglian Water • A water undertaker - Anglian Water and Yorkshire Water • Homes England and the Regulator of Social Housing
General consultation bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary bodies whose activities benefit any part of North Lincolnshire • Bodies representing the interests of different racial, ethnic and national groups • Bodies representing religious groups in North Lincolnshire • Bodies representing disabled persons in North Lincolnshire • Bodies representing the interests of persons carrying out business in North Lincolnshire
Other consultation bodies	Includes individuals and residents of North Lincolnshire and other national, regional and local bodies who the Council are aware have an interest in the Local Plan. The Council will also consult other relevant agencies not included in the list of specific consultees, such as Internal Drainage Boards, Royal Mail, Forestry Commission, Sport England where appropriate.
Duty to Cooperate bodies ** The Duty to Co-operate applies to the prescribed bodies of the Mayor of London, Transport for London, Local Enterprise Partnerships and each Integrated Transport Authority. However,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency • Historic England • Natural England

<p>given the strategic issues of the Local Plan, North Lincolnshire Council consider it would be unnecessary and not effective to actively seek cooperation with these bodies because the area is not covered by such a body.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor of London** • The Civil Aviation Authority • Homes England and Regulator of Social Housing • Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board • NHS England • Office of Rail and Road • Transport for London** • The Secretary of State for Transport • National Highways • North Lincolnshire Council Highways Authority • Marine Management Organisation • Local Enterprise Partnerships - Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership** • Local Nature Partnerships - Humber Nature Partnership and Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership
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Any individual or organisation wishing to be added to the Local Plan consultee list to be kept informed of Local Plan and related document consultations, should contact the Place Planning team at the details contained in Appendix 3 – Useful contact details.

Appendix 2 – Community Involvement Methods

Legislation sets out the minimum requirements for public participation when preparing a Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents as set out in Tables 1 and 2 above. Where possible and appropriate, the Council will go beyond these requirements to promote greater community participation and to meet the needs of our different communities. Therefore, a variety of methods are likely to be used at various stages of the plan making process. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Direct notifications to organisations/individuals – emails will be sent to statutory bodies, specific consultees, general consultation bodies, residents, internal consultees, agents and developers and other relevant groups and organisations to notify them when consultations are due to commence. Anyone who has expressed an interest in the Local Plan and has their email address registered on the consultation database will receive an automatic email notification when consultations commence.
- Website – consultation documents and progress on planning documents will be publicised on the Council's Local Plan website. This will include evidence base documents and the Council's response to consultation comments received once published. People will be encouraged to view and make comments on consultation documents through digital response forms on the Local Plan website.
- Deposit venues – During consultation periods, documents will be made available for inspection at Church Square House, Scunthorpe (the Council's principal office). Documents may also be deposited in Scunthorpe Central and other community hubs and libraries where appropriate, depending on the scale of the consultation. All consultation documents will be available to view electronically at community hubs and libraries via the public access computer network.
- Social media – where appropriate, consultation details and events may be advertised on the Council's corporate Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn and Snapchat accounts.
- Local media – a public notice may be placed in a local newspaper to advertise formal periods of consultation. These will include detail on when and where planning documents can be inspected, how copies can be obtained, the closing date for representations and where to send them. Press releases to local newspapers and radio stations may also be issued to promote consultations and latest news.
- News Direct – updates will appear in the Council's News Direct newspaper, where possible. It is a free publication that is sent to all residents in North Lincolnshire (around 89,600 homes) three to four times a year.
- Public events – these may involve drop-in events, presentations, forums and workshops to appropriate groups, organisations, stakeholders and residents to target particular people in the community who may be interested in specific issues. This may be particularly helpful in the early stages of plan making to raise awareness. Workshops will be interactive and promote discussions in groups using plans, models and other visual materials and are particularly useful at issues and options (regulation 18) stage. Details of events will published on the

Council's website and circulated to consultees on the consultation database via email.

- Leaflets, posters & flyers - these may be distributed to promote consultations and public events, summarise consultation information and encourage comments. Information may also be circulated to Town or Parish Councils and residents associations for display on community notice boards or in community newsletters.
- Exhibitions/road shows – displaying information and proposals in a public exhibition at for example, libraries, community centres and shopping centres. These are useful in promoting consultations and engaging those who may not get involved in more formal methods. Exhibitions can be staffed to enable face-to-face discussion, or unstaffed and displayed over longer periods in prominent locations.
- Council meetings - where appropriate, we will take our plans to relevant Council meetings for feedback and approval from elected local members. The Local Plan must be adopted by the full Council.

The Council will do its best to ensure that documents are written clearly and concisely and avoid technical language whilst remaining fit for their purpose. Documents can also be made available in different languages and formats on request.

For consultation events, accessible venues will be chosen in suitable locations across North Lincolnshire as appropriate and held at convenient times of the day and week during working and non-working hours to ensure all members of the community can attend. The Council will also be clear about the aims and scope of engagement so that people understand when they can participate and the rules for doing so to help manage expectations.

Appendix 3 – Useful contact details

For more information about the Local Plan or planning policy please contact the **Place Planning** team at:

Email: spatial.planning@northlincs.gov.uk

Telephone: 01724 296694

Postal Address: North Lincolnshire Council
Place Planning
Church Square House
30-40 High Street
Scunthorpe
DN15 6NL

Web: <https://localplan.northlincs.gov.uk>

For more information about planning applications, please contact **Development Management** at:

Email: planning@northlincs.gov.uk

Telephone: 01724 297000

Postal Address: North Lincolnshire Council
Development Management
Church Square House
30-40 High Street
Scunthorpe
DN15 6NL

Web: <https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment>

More information and advice about the planning system is provided by the organisations in Table 5 below.

Table 5 Organisations providing planning advice and support

Organisation	Description	Contact Details
The Planning Portal	The Government's online 'one stop shop' for planning. It provides information on the planning system, allows you to submit a planning application, find out about development in your area, appeal against a decision and research government policy.	Website: www.planningportal.co.uk Email: support@planningportal.co.uk Telephone: 0333 323 4589
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)	Provides general information on the planning system including the latest national planning policy, decisions on planning appeals, research and statistics and reform of the planning systems.	Website (and online contact form): www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-housing-communities-local-government Telephone: 0303 444 0000
Planning Aid England	Provides free, independent and professional planning advice to communities and individuals who cannot afford to pay professional fees. It is provided by the Royal Town Planning Institute.	Website: www.rtpi.org.uk/planningaid Email: info@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk Telephone: 0370 774 9494
The Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	Processes planning appeals and holds examinations into statutory planning policy documents and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).	Website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate Email: enquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk Telephone: 0303 444 5000