

South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum briefing - 20th April 2016

The new Local Plan for South Kesteven District



What are we going to cover today?

- Why do we need to prepare a new Local Plan?
- Progress to date – evidence base work
- What are the opportunities to be engaged in the Local Plan preparations?
- What is the programme and timetable for preparing the new Local Plan?

What do we want to achieve within the new Local Plan

- To set out an SKDC vision and related strategic objectives for the next 20 years
- To create a structure of certainty to guide investment and development decisions
- To establish the right amount of, and the right locations for, growth to meet our future needs
- Offer the opportunities to involve and engage the public, stakeholders and with elected members to garner ownership of the plan

Why do we need to prepare a new Local Plan?

- Changes to legislation - now a Governmental requirement to prepare a single Local Plan for the District
- Need to review/update Core Strategy and Site Allocations as well as take forward abortive work in and around Grantham
- Must meet the Duty to Co-Operate with neighbouring authorities, e.g. Agreement to meeting housing delivery targets internally over the plan period.

How will the Local Plan be prepared?

- Consistency with national planning policies
- Engaging with the public: initial work undertaken to scope out the plan
- Evidence based on objectively assessed need taking account of the duty to co-operate with neighbouring authorities and other public bodies and agencies
- The plan will be informed and by a related sustainability appraisal

Work so far

- Regulation 18 Consultation
- Review of Vision and Strategic Objectives
- Update of Evidence Base
- Moving towards a revised Spatial Strategy
- Call for sites – initial assessment of land availability

Updating the Evidence Base

- Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) – this is the process by which housing targets are identified, using projected population and household changes to establish scenarios for the District.
- Produced Grantham and Stamford Capacity and Limits to Growth reports – these studies form part of the technical evidence base, which will be utilised to identify future possible growth options.
- Employment Land and Retail Needs Studies complete; these also form part of the technical evidence base.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment

- The SHMA forms a key element of the Local Plan evidence base. It identifies the Districts “Objectively Assessed Need” (OAN), as well as the OAN for the wider Housing Market Area.
- SKDC comes under the Peterborough Sub-regional Housing Market Area (HMA). This includes Peterborough, South Holland and Rutland.
- It is a Government requirement to identify and deliver an areas identified OAN. Where an area cannot deliver its OAN, it is through the Duty to Co-Operate that discussions take place about where within the wider HMA that growth could be accommodated.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment

- For SKDC the Strategic Housing Market Assessment has identified two scenarios:
- The Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) or minimum that SKDC needs to deliver through the Local Plan is – 636 dwellings per annum, over the period 2011 to 2036.
- On top of the OAN, to improve economic performance SKDC could seek to deliver an additional 62 dwellings per annum, over the period 2011 to 2036. This is equal to an annual requirement of 698 dwellings, over the period 2011 to 2036.

Additional Evidence Base

- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
- Water cycle studies/Strategic Flood Risk Assessments
- Open Space Assessment
- Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment
- Landscape Character Assessments
- Renewable Energy Assessment
- Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Geo and Biodiversity Study
- Plan viability assessment/ infrastructure costings

Vision and Strategic Objectives

- A desire to present the District as being open for investment and welcoming for growth
- Strengthening the focus of the growth ambition for Grantham
- Establishing a “golden thread” of that growth ambition throughout the Local Plan
- Responding to identified key issues and challenges

Towards a revised Spatial Strategy

- Focus of growth and investment in Grantham;
- Support development which enables Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings maintain their role and function as market towns;
- Local Service Centres – review criteria + growth which supports local community services and facilities;
- Settlements below LSCs: amend policy to allow infill and brownfield development + ask villages whether they would wish to be considered as “growth settlements” (as an alternative to Neighbourhood Plan).

What next?

- Further consideration of the revised spatial strategy for the district
- Defining the amount and potential locations for new housing and employment
- Commissioning and interpreting new and updated evidence
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan, including determining viability and related infrastructure requirements
- Preparing for public consultation – Sept 2016

Any questions?

- Contact details: planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk