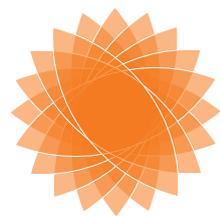


# North Kesteven District

## Annual Monitoring Report

Monitoring Period 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014



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North Kesteven District Council

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Regulation 34 requires Local Planning Authorities to produce an Authorities' Monitoring Report (AMR). This AMR is structured around meeting the requirements of Regulation 34.
- 1.2 Compliance with this Regulation builds on the annual monitoring reports produced and published for the District historically between 2005 and 2014 under the title "Annual Monitoring Report".
- 1.3 During this monitoring period the Authority has been working with its partner authorities, Lincoln City Council and West Lindsey District Council towards the adoption of a Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy. This document sets out the strategic planning policies for the area, including the housing requirement, and growth distribution.
- 1.4 For the purposes of this 2013-2014 monitoring report, the following key documents relevant during this period will be referenced;
  - Central Lincolnshire Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2012-2016 approved by Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (CLJSPC) 5th November 2012
  - Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan May 2012 approved for public consultation by CLJSPC 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012
  - Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan – Area Policies for Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford January 2013 approved for public consultation by CLJSPC 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013
  - Central Lincolnshire Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2014-2016 approved by Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (CLJSPC) 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014
- 1.5 The above documents are available to view at the central Lincolnshire Local Plan website <http://www.central-lincs.org.uk/>
- 1.6 The source of the information used in this report is North Kesteven District Council unless otherwise stated.
- 1.7 This AMR covers the period 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014.

### ***Key findings of this Monitoring Report***

- 1.8 The following summarise the key findings of this AMR:
  - During 2013/14 progress on the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy is summarised as follows;
    - Final consultation on Core Strategy Publication Version completed;
    - Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy submitted for Examination on the 21st October 2013;
    - Concerns raised by the Inspector as to the soundness of the Core Strategy at a pre-hearing meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013;

- On the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2014 it was resolved that the recommendation be accepted and the Core Strategy be withdrawn;
  - New Local Development Scheme produced and agreed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 detailing the production of a new single Local Plan document.
- During the monitoring period;
    - 237 new homes were completed;
    - There were 15 affordable housing completions (gross);
    - At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 North Kesteven has a deliverable housing supply of 4505 dwellings;
    - 7105 square metres of additional employment floor space was completed;
    - 100% of the completed employment space was on previously developed land;
    - 2065 square metres of development was completed for town centre uses
    - There is a total area of 89.13 ha of land designated as Local Nature Reserves in North Kesteven;
    - There are 7 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) totalling an area of 156.73 ha. 89.7% of this land is in favourable or unfavourable but recovering condition;
    - There are 44 County Wildlife Sites in North Kesteven
    - There are 145 Local Wildlife Sites with 48% of these locally designated sites in positive conservation management status.

### ***Detailed Portrait of North Kesteven***

1.9 Detailed information on topics such as Population, Households, Economy, Health and Education can be found in the District Area profiles published by the Lincolnshire Research Observatory <http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/area-profiles.aspx>.

### ***Location***

1.10 North Kesteven is one of seven districts located in the centre of Lincolnshire and covers an area of 356 square miles. The district is characterised by small settlements and large areas of arable farmland. There are many small villages and several larger service villages. The main concentration of residents are located however in the market town of Sleaford, with a population of over 17,000 and North Hykeham, which adjoins the neighbouring city of Lincoln.

**Figure 1 – The North Kesteven District**



Source: Google

## Population

1.11 The table below sets out county wide information on population change. There has been an increase of approximately 13,000 since the 2002 mid-year estimate resulting in a slightly higher percentage change than for Lincolnshire as a whole at 13.4%.

**Table 1 – Lincolnshire and Districts Population Estimates 2002 to mid-2013**

Local Authority Area	2002 Mid-year estimate census	2011 census	2013 Mid-year estimate	% Change 2002-2013	% Change 2011-2013
Boston	56,400	64,600	65,900	16.8%	2%
East Lindsey	132,100	136,700	136,700	3.5%	0%
City of Lincoln	85,700	93,100	95,600	11.6%	2.7%
<b>North Kesteven</b>	<b>96,900</b>	<b>108,500</b>	<b>109,900</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
South Holland	77,300	88,400	89,200	15.4%	0.9%
South Kesteven	125,500	134,100	136,400	8.7%	1.7%
West Lindsey	81,100	89,400	90,700	11.8%	1.5%
<b>Lincolnshire</b>	<b>655,600</b>	<b>714,800</b>	<b>724,500</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

Source: CCC R&P 2002 and 2013 mid-year estimates & ONS 2011 Census figures.  
Totals may not add due to rounding

## 2.0 Authorities' Monitoring Report and the Local Planning Regulations 2012

### **Regulation 34(1) – Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Progress**

34. (1) A local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the following information—

(a) the title of the local plans or supplementary planning documents specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme;

(b) in relation to each of those documents—

(i) the timetable specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme for the document's preparation; .

(ii) the stage the document has reached in its preparation; and .

(iii) if the document's preparation is behind the timetable mentioned in paragraph (i) the reasons for this; and .

(c) where any local plan or supplementary planning document specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme has been adopted or approved within the period in respect of which the report is made, a statement of that fact and of the date of adoption or approval.

- 2.1 A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the project plan setting out the content and relevant timescales for the delivery of a council's Local Plan. Since the establishment of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Committee in 2011 the District has been working jointly with neighbouring Districts, Lincoln City Council and West Lindsey District Council to produce a Joint Local Plan. The Local Development Scheme 2012-2016 published in November 2012 is partly relevant to this Monitoring Period.
- 2.2 On the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013 it was agreed that the Core Strategy Publication Version be published for the formal consultation period, which provided local communities with the opportunity to challenge and contribute to the recognised need and link between growth, providing additional good quality housing and employment opportunities, all required within Central Lincolnshire.
- 2.3 Following the completion of this process the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy was submitted for Examination on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013.
- 2.4 The Inspector responded with concerns surrounding the potential delivery gap (0-5yrs) and strategic policies gap, the viability and infrastructure information and the sustainability appraisal. The Joint Committee resolved at a meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 to agree to a 9 month temporary suspension of the Core Strategy Examination to deal with the concerns raised by the Inspector.
- 2.5 On the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2014 a further Committee meeting was held following a recommendation to withdraw the Core Strategy being received from the Planning Inspector at a pre-hearing meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013. It was considered the initial concerns raised could not be addressed in the 9 months requested and that instead work should commence on a comprehensive Local Plan to be produced by 2016. It was resolved that the recommendation be accepted and the Core Strategy be withdrawn.

- 2.6 Following the committee's decision in January 2014 to withdraw the Core Strategy and combine the two plan approach into one single Local Plan, a revised local development scheme was prepared and agreed at Committee on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014.
- 2.7 This annual monitoring report therefore identifies the milestones of the previous LDS but also identifies the new timetable produced under the Local Development Scheme 2014-2016 approved on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014.
- 2.8 To meet regulation 34(1) (a), the title of Local Plans (DPDs) and SPDs in the LDS moving forwards are as follows:
- Local Development Scheme 2014-16;**
- Central Lincolnshire Local Plan
  - Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedules (Aligned), for: West Lindsey; North Kesteven; City Of Lincoln.
- 2.9 The current North Kesteven Local Plan was adopted in 2007. The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan is intended to replace the existing Local Plan.
- 2.10 To meet regulation 34(1) (b) (i) and (ii), the LDS set out the following timetable for the Local Plan production, together with the stage it reached during the Monitoring period:

**Table 2 - Progress against Local Development Scheme 2012 targets**

Document	LDS Nov 2012 target date	Progress during AMR period 2013-14
<b><u>Core Strategy DPD</u></b>		
Consultation on CL Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan - Generic Policies	July - September 2012	Completed July - September 2012
Consultation on CL Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan - Area Based Policies	January - March 2013	Completed January - March 2013
Publication CL Core Strategy (Pre-submission Consultation)	July - August 2013	Completed
Submission and Examination (incl Hearings)	September 2013 – February 2014	Submitted 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2013. Following advice from the Planning Inspector the Core Strategy was withdrawn on the 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2014 and work started on preparing a Local Development Scheme in order to produce a single Local Plan.

**Table 2a - Progress against Local Development Scheme 2014-2016 targets**

Document	LDS 2014-16 target date	Progress during AMR period 2013-14
<b><u>Central Lincolnshire Local Plan</u></b>		
Ongoing Community Involvement on Draft Local Plan	March 2014 – December 2015	Commenced March 2014
Formal consultation on Draft Local Plan (Settlement Growth & Strategic Policies)	October – November 2014	-----
Formal consultation on Draft Local Plan (Site Allocations)	July – August 2015	-----
Final Draft Plan Formal Consultation	January – February 2016	-----
Submission	April 2016	-----
Examination	July 2016	-----
Inspectors Report	September 2016	-----
Adoption	November 2016	-----

2.11 To meet regulation 34(1) (b) (i), it is confirmed that progress towards the Local Plan adoption is in line with Local Development Scheme Targets.

2.12 To meet regulation 34(1)(c), it is confirmed that no Local Plan or Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in the Monitoring Period.

***Regulation 34(2) Non-Implementation of a Policy***

*34. (2) Where a local planning authority are not implementing a policy specified in a local plan, the local planning authority’s monitoring report must—*

*(a) identify that policy; and .*

*(b) include a statement of— .*

*(i) the reasons why the local planning authority are not implementing the policy; and*

*(ii) the steps (if any) that the local planning authority intend to take to secure that the policy is implemented.*

2.13 To meet Regulation 34(2), it is confirmed that all ‘saved’ policies (i.e. policies saved by direction of the Secretary of State) in the 2007 Local Plan were being implemented during the monitoring period apart from policy H1 which addresses housing.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which came into force on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012 confirms in paragraph 49 that it is necessary to consider the current position regarding to housing land supply within the district. The 2013 Central Lincolnshire Housing Land Availability Assessment update confirms that the District Planning Authority does not currently have a 5 year housing supply. Therefore

saved Local Plan policy H1'Housing' (which set out housing land supply for the plan period) is considered to be out of date.

Paragraph 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework makes it clear that at the heart of the planning system is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. When making decisions regarding proposals where relevant local policies are out of date the key direction set out in the NPPF is that permission should be granted if the proposal is considered to be sustainable development. The District is therefore not implementing policy H1 for these reasons and is considering planning applications and making decisions based on the NPPF with regard to housing development. No steps are being taken to secure that the policy is implemented.

## 3.0 Housing in North Kesteven

### **Regulation 34(3) – Net additional dwellings**

*34. (3) Where a policy specified in a local plan specifies an annual number, or a number relating to any other period of net additional dwellings or net additional affordable dwellings in any part of the local planning authority's area, the local planning authority's monitoring report must specify the relevant number for the part of the local planning authority's area concerned—*

*(a) in the period in respect of which the report is made, and*

*(b) since the policy was first published, adopted or approved.*

- 3.1 The 2013 Draft Core Strategy consulted on in 2012 identified a requirement for 42,800 new homes within Central Lincolnshire. A target figure by administrative area was not identified and it is intended that a more detailed assessment by administrative boundary is carried out through the development of the allocation Development Plan Document.
- 3.2 To respond to Regulation 34(3)(a), the adopted Local Plan does not specify an annual number (dwellings or affordable dwellings) for the monitoring period of 2013/14 and a replacement Plan has not yet been adopted. However, it is confirmed that 237 net additional dwellings were completed in the monitoring period and in terms of affordable dwellings, it is confirmed that 15 **gross** affordable homes were completed.
- 3.3 It is not currently possible to monitor **net** affordable dwellings completed, as data is not available for affordable dwelling losses and indirect gains. By its nature such data is difficult to collect as the LA is not notified of conversions to a non-affordable dwelling or visa versa as a matter of course.
- 3.4 The Authority does however have data on Council House losses from stock through the 'Right to Buy'. 17 properties were sold during the monitoring period.
- 3.5 In respect of Regulation 34(3)(b), the Local Plan was adopted in 2007, and it is confirmed that since 2006, 3422 net dwellings have been completed, including 763 gross affordable dwellings between 2006 and 2014.
- 3.6 To break down the figures for more recent times in detail, the tables below show the total number of dwelling completions in North Kesteven for the period 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2014. The net cumulative total and annual average completions since 2006 is set out below. This data shows that the annual average peaked at 595 in 2007/08 and has fallen since, now standing at 428 for 2013/14.

**Table 3 – North Kesteven net dwelling completion totals since Local Plan Adoption 2007**

Net dwelling completion totals since North Kesteven Local Plan Adoption 2007	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Net Completions	584	605	432	413	510	322	319	237
Cumulative since the Local Plan adoption 2007	584	1189	1621	2034	2544	2866	3185	3422

**Table 4 – North Kesteven gross dwelling completion totals since Local Plan Adoption 2007**

Gross dwelling completion totals since North Kesteven Local Plan Adoption 2007	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Gross Completions	584	605	432	502	511	322	322	239
Cumulative since the Local Plan adoption 2007	584	1189	1621	2123	2634	2956	3278	3517

**Table 5 – North Kesteven net cumulative dwelling completions and annual averages since Local Plan Adoption 2007**

Net cumulative dwelling completions and annual averages	Cumulative Total	Annual Average
2006/07	584	584
2007/08	1189	595
2008/09	1621	540
2009/10	2034	509
2010/11	2544	509
2011/12	2866	478
2012/13	3185	455
2013/14	3422	428

## ***Gypsy and Traveller pitches***

- 3.7 The Central Lincolnshire Gypsy and Travellers accommodation assessment 2013 summarises accommodation needs in central Lincolnshire and North Kesteven. 7 additional pitches within North Kesteven were identified as being required in the first 5 years (2013-2018). Monitoring information relates to the delivery of pitches for Gypsy and Traveller families. For the purposes of monitoring, a pitch is defined as an “area of land demarked for the use as accommodation by a single Gypsy and Traveller household, sometimes including extended families which may require space, within one pitch, to provide for more than one caravan.” (Core Output Indicators - Update 2/2008).
- 3.8 Table 6 details the net total number of pitches available for use in North Kesteven since 2007. For the 2013/14 monitoring period there were no additional pitches granted planning permission in the district. There were 2 pitches in use without planning permission which were ‘tolerated’ by the local authority.

**Table 6 - Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show people pitches in North Kesteven**

Net Pitches for Gypsies & Travellers granted planning permission	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Current Total
Permanent Planning Permission	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	28
Temporary Planning Permission	0	0	28	-28	0	0	0	0
Caravans on Travellers own land – ‘tolerated’	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

## ***Affordable housing completions (Gross)***

- 3.9 Affordable housing is monitored as gross completions (see earlier commentary). Between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014 there were 15 affordable dwelling completions which represents approximately 6% of total net dwelling completions in that year.
- 3.10 Table 7 sets out affordable housing completions over the past 8 years.

**Table 7 – Affordable Housing Completions (Gross) 2007-2014**

Gross Affordable Dwellings Completed	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Total number of all dwellings completed	584	605	432	502	511	322	322	239
Gross number of affordable dwellings completed	3	79	110	122	205	81	148	15
Percentage of total dwellings completed that are affordable	0.5%	13.1%	25.5%	24%	40%	25%	46%	6%

### ***Right to buy sales***

3.11 North Kesteven district currently owns 3828 homes. 1394 affordable homes are also operated by other registered social landlords within the District. 17 properties have been sold during the monitoring period under the Right to Buy scheme. This continues on a level from the previous year's figure. Since the start of the Local Plan period, 70 Council owned properties have been sold under the Right to Buy scheme.

**Table 8 – Right to buy sales of publically owned housing stock in North Kesteven**

Right to buy sales	Total Stock	Gross right to buy sales	Cumulative right to buy sales
2006/07	3841	11	11
2007/08	3839	8	19
2008/09	3811	2	21
2009/10	3805	7	28
2010/11	3819	4	32
2011/12	3827	3	35
2012/13	3832	18	53
2013/14	3828	17	70

### ***Housing Land Supply in North Kesteven***

3.13 At the 1st April 2013 North Kesteven has a deliverable housing supply of 4505 dwellings. The council is working with partner authorities to identify and assess additional land for housing in and around the district, also exercising its duty to co-operate with other authorities to develop the level of housing required.

### **Regulation 34(4) – neighbourhood planning**

*34. (4) Where a local planning authority have made a neighbourhood development order or a neighbourhood development plan, the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain details of these documents.*

3.14 To meet Regulation 34(4), it is confirmed that no neighbourhood development plans or orders were made ('adopted') in the monitoring period. In addition to Billingham and Welbourn who designated neighbourhood plan areas in 2012/13, Hykeham (North and South) have also designated an area during the monitoring period. However no neighbourhood plans have been adopted.

### **Regulation 34(5) - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

*34. (5) Where a local planning authority have prepared a report pursuant to regulation 62 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010(2), the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the information specified in regulation 62(4) of those Regulations.*

3.15 For the purpose of Regulation 34, it is confirmed that the Authority does not yet have a Community Infrastructure Charge in place and as such has not yet produced any reports as required under regulation 62 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010. Following the withdrawal of the Core Strategy the timetable for the production of the CIL has been reviewed. The Central Lincolnshire Authorities continue to work in alignment on their charging schedules, so that they can be examined and subsequently adopted at the same time. The programme for delivering a CIL charge is outlined in the new 2014-2016 LDS and progress against this will be undertaken in future AMRs;

**Table 9 - Summary of CIL programme**

<b>Community Infrastructure Charging Schedules</b>	<b>LDS 2014-2016 target date</b>	<b>Progress during AMR period 2013-14</b>
Review of Baseline Assessments and Non CIL Funding	February – August 2014	Work commenced
Periodic review of levels of s106	April – May 2015 April – May 2016	-----
Key site infrastructure and viability assessments	September 2014 – June 2015	-----
Regulation 123 list agreed and published	July – August 2015	-----
Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule	July – August 2015	-----
CIL Draft Charging Schedule	January – February 2016	-----
CIL Submission	April 2016	-----
CIL Examination	July 2016	-----
CIL Inspectors Report	September 2016	-----
CIL Adoption	November 2016	-----

### **Regulation 34(6) – Duty to Cooperate**

*34. (6) Where a local planning authority have co-operated with another local planning authority, county council, or a body or person prescribed under section 33A of the Act, the local planning authority’s monitoring report must give details of what action they have taken during the period covered by the report.*

### **Duty to Cooperate: Joint Plans or other applicable Strategies**

- 3.16 This “Duty to co-operate” requires local planning authorities and prescribed public bodies to work together, through engaging constructively, actively, and on an ongoing basis, with regard to strategic matters and supporting activities that relate to the preparation of development plan documents. A strategic matter is defined as sustainable development or use of land or infrastructure that has or would have a significant impact on at least 2 planning areas.
- 3.17 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, March 2012) builds on the requirements of the Localism Act, stating that public bodies have a duty to co-operate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries (Para 178), and identifies strategic priorities for Local Plans (Para 156).
- 3.18 The duty is principally aimed at ensuring that adjoining Councils work together to produce ‘joined up’ plans in the absence of future guidance from the strategic level (e.g. Regional Plans) and that public bodies work together in respect of the delivery of a Plan. The duty is to co-operate and engage not necessarily to agree.

- 3.19 During the monitoring period the preparation of the 2013 Core Strategy document and work on the commencement of the new Local Plan has been undertaken in a co-operative manner, reflecting the Central Lincolnshire Authorities existing commitment to joint working and collaboration with relevant bodies. The Central Lincolnshire Authorities are committed to continue engaging constructively with neighbouring local planning authorities and public bodies regarding strategic planning matters in the area.
- 3.20 Engagement with neighbouring authorities is ongoing and will continue on from the wide range of individual co-operation and discussion meetings held in January and February 2013.
- 3.21 With regard to public bodies, the existing working arrangements and co-operation that occurs between the Central Lincolnshire authorities and the relevant public bodies show a long history of collaboration that constitutes on-going engagement that already contributes to meeting the duty to co-operate. However, fresh discussions and engagement with public bodies is occurring, to clarify existing co-operation arrangements, and to identify any potential need for new arrangements.
- 3.22 Details of co-operative working undertaken were outlined in the 'Statement of Compliance with the Duty to Co-operate' document, produced in July 2013 as part of the Core Strategy development. A copy of this report is available to view from the Central Lincolnshire website <http://www.central-lincs.org.uk/>

## 4.0 The Economy in North Kesteven

### *Additional employment floor space*

- 4.1 This indicator relates to the amount of additional floor space completed within the monitoring period.
- 4.2 A piece of secondary legislation groups types of use of premises into classes, so that no planning permission is required if a building is changed from one use to another within the same class. Employment Land for the purposes of this monitoring indicator is defined as uses B1, B2 and B8 (see table below for categories).
- 4.3 Table 10 shows the additional floor space created for employment in North Kesteven over the period from the 1st April 2009 to the 31st March 2014.
- 4.4 7105 square metres of additional employment floorspace was completed during the monitoring period. This figure is considerably lower than in previous years due to large schemes being completed in the previous monitoring period. Developments in this monitoring period include Aviation Park at North Scarle and a number of commercial workspaces within North Hykeham. All completed floorspace was located on previously developed land in this monitoring period.

**Table 10 - Additional Employment Floor space**

Employment Floorspace Developed (m2)					
Land Use Type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
B1	431	386	5613.49	6896.98	957
B2	367.3	478	1082	7501	2851
B8	264.43	4512	7133.1	3209	0
Mixed	5294.68	11748.75	1935	21428.5	3297
Total	6357.41	17124.75	15763.59	39035.48	7105

**Table 11 – Percentage of employment floorspace completed on previously developed land**

Amount of Employment Floorspace completed on Previously Developed Land (%)					
Land Use Type	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
B1	100%	83%	65%	47%	100%
B2	100%	19%	100%	40%	100%
B8	100%	30%	93%	100%	100%
Mixed	9.6%	46%	55%	21%	100%

### **Completed floor space for “town centre uses”**

- 4.5 This information relates to the amount of floor space created for “Town Centre Uses”. This data includes both Sleaford town centre and the rest of the district.
- 4.6 Unlike the employment use developments, retail and leisure developments in 2013-14 are significantly above the levels of the last 2 years. The principal reason for this has been the change of use of two industrial buildings to gymnasiums. Sleaford Leisure Centre has also undergone a major refurbishment within this monitoring period but of the 1614 square metres development only 18 square metres was new floorspace.

**Table 12 – Floor space developed for “town centre uses”**

Town Centre Uses Developed (A1, A2 & D2) (m2)					
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
In Sleaford Town Centre	336.5	435.52	131	859	146
Rest of District	0	1581.2	843	323.5	1919
Total	336.5	2016.72	974	1182.5	2065

## 5.0 The Environment in North Kesteven

### *European or International Designations*

#### **Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)**

- 5.1 SACs are sites designated under the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora). North Kesteven contains no areas of land covered by SACs.

#### **Special Protection Areas (SPA)**

- 5.2 SPAs are sites designated under the EU Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). North Kesteven contains no areas of land covered by SPAs.

#### **Ramsar Sites**

- 5.3 Ramsar sites are sites designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. North Kesteven contains no areas of land covered by Ramsar sites.

### *National Designations*

#### **Local Nature Reserves (LNR)**

- 5.4 LNRs are designated by Natural England and the relevant local authority. They are publicly accessible areas. There are 2 Local Nature Reserves in North Kesteven. No new Local Nature Reserves have been designated and there has been no amendments to the existing sites.

**Table 13 – Local Nature Reserves in North Kesteven**

Local Nature Reserve	Total Area (ha)
Lollycocks Field, Sleaford	2.1
Whisby Nature Park, Whisby	87.03

**Table 14 – Local Nature Reserves per 1000 people in North Kesteven**

Information on LNR	Data
Local Nature Reserve Total Area in North Kesteven (ha)	89.13
Population in North Kesteven (figure from ONS Population Estimates 2013)	109,900
Local Nature Reserve area per 1000 people (ha)	0.81

## Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

5.5 SSSIs are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. There are 7 SSSIs in North Kesteven including Potterhanworth Wood, High Dyke, Metherringham Heath Quarry, Wilsford Heath Quarry, Wilsford & Rauceby Warrens, Doddington Clay Woods and Copper Hill, Wilsford.

## SSSI Condition Assessment

5.6 SSSIs are divided up into areas known as SSSI units and these units are monitored for their condition by Natural England. The condition of a SSSI unit is deemed to fall into one of five categories - favourable, unfavourable recovering, unfavourable no change, unfavourable declining and destroyed/part destroyed. The condition of SSSIs in the district is shown below by percentage area of total SSSI in each state. The majority of designated land is in a favourable or unfavourable but recovering condition. Of the total 156.73 hectares of designated land, 16.19 hectares (Wilsford Heath Quarry) is in an unfavourable declining condition which is an overall percentage of 10.3%. No new condition data has been provided during this monitoring period.

**Table 15 – SSSI Condition Assessment**

SSSI Site	Area (ha)	Favourable	Unfavourable – Recovering	Unfavourable – No change	Unfavourable - Declining	Partially Destroyed	Destroyed	Not Assessed
Potterhanworth Wood	33.08	100%						
High Dyke	6.77		100%					
Metherringham Heath Quarry	12.75	100%						
Wilsford Heath Quarry	16.19				100%			
Wilsford & Rauceby Warrens	57.42		100%					
Doddington Clay Woods	23.88	100%						
Copper Hill, Wilsford	6.64	70.05%	29.95%					

## Non-Statutory Sites

### County Wildlife Sites (CWS) in North Kesteven

5.7 County Wildlife Sites are identified because their flora, fauna, geological or geophysical features are of County-wide importance. They are designated by the Council, following advice from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. There are 44 sites currently identified. No new County Wildlife Sites have been designated during the monitoring period and no existing sites have been lost.

### Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in North Kesteven

5.8 Local Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites are sites selected by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership GLNP (a group of partnership organisations and individuals affiliated to the Greater Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership). LWSs have no statutory protection but are recognised as a material consideration. There are 145 locally designated sites in North Kesteven. The proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being achieved is a proxy measure of local biodiversity and is used by central government to assess the performance of local authorities. In this monitoring period 48% of sites within North Kesteven are in positive conservation management. An additional 14 Local Wildlife Sites and 2 Local Geological Sites have been designated during the monitoring period.

**Table 16 – Sites with local environmental designations**

Information on Locally designated sites	Data
Local Wildlife Sites	137
Local Geological Sites	8
Sites where positive conservation management is being achieved	69 (48%)

### Renewable Energy Generation

5.9 This data looks at the energy generation capacity provided from renewable energy sources. All non-domestic renewable energy projects granted planning permission during 2013/14 were solar photovoltaic schemes apart from 1 wind turbine at Sky Lane, Haddington. 3 of the 10 solar schemes permitted had smaller scale output of between 10kW and 44kW. 6 of the 10 approved schemes had an output of between 50kW and 250kW and one larger scheme at Ancaster Heath had an annual output of up to 29.66 mega watts.

**Table 17 – Non-domestic Renewable Energy Projects granted planning permission during 2013/14**

Type of Renewable Energy	Energy Production	Site Area (ha)
Biomass	0	0
Photovoltaic	30636kW	19841.87
Wind	10kW	0.13

## Co2 Emissions in North Kesteven in Lincolnshire

5.10 Table 18 below identifies the local CO2 emission estimates for North Kesteven and surrounding districts in Lincolnshire. The figure for North Kesteven has been relatively stable between 2011 and 2013 only varying by 0.1 tonnes per annum per capita. There is a 2 year delay in receiving this information.

**Table 18 – Local CO2 emission estimates**

Local Authority Area	Estimates of CO2 emissions in Tonnes/annum per capita (ie per head of population)							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Boston	8.1	7.8	7.5	7	7.2	6.5	6.7	6.2
East Lindsey	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.1	7.4	6.8	7	6.7
Lincoln	6.2	6	5.8	5.1	5.2	4.7	5.1	4.8
<b>North Kesteven</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>
South Holland	8.5	8.3	8.2	7.5	7.8	7	7.5	7.3
South Kesteven	9.3	8.9	8.5	7.8	8.2	7.6	7.6	7.5
West Lindsey	8	7.6	7.4	7	7.2	6.7	7.1	6.8

## Flood Protection and Water Quality

5.11 Local planning authorities are required to consult the Environment Agency (EA) on all applications for development in flood risk areas (except minor development) including those in areas with critical drainage problems and for any development on land exceeding 1 hectare outside flood risk areas.

5.12 North Kesteven annually report the number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on flooding and water quality grounds to show numbers of developments which are potentially located where a) they would be at risk of flooding or increase the risk of flooding elsewhere; and b) adversely affect water quality. This information assists the authorities and the EA in reducing and managing flood risk in North Kesteven and Central Lincolnshire.

5.13 No planning permissions were granted contrary to Environment Agency objection during the monitoring period.

**Table 19 - Flood Protection & Water Quality in North Kesteven 2013/14**

Flood Protection & Water Quality in North Kesteven	Data
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA objection on flooding grounds	0
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA objection on water quality grounds	0

## **6.0 Conclusion and Next Steps**

- 6.1 This is the fourth AMR where North Kesteven has been part of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Unit. This AMR reports performance against Core Output Indicators, indicators set by the previous Government to monitor local planning authority performance. It is important to continue to monitor performance to measure the effectiveness of our policies and decisions. The Central Lincolnshire JPU will be working with others on developing local indicators and targets as part of the Local Plan which will form the basis of future AMRs. In addition, future AMRs will be informed by any approach enacted by the Localism Bill and any future national policy and guidance.