# North Kesteven District

**Annual Monitoring Report** 

Monitoring Period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013



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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 2012 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 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

- 1.5 The above documents are available to view at the central Lincolnshire Local Plan website <a href="http://www.central-lincs.org.uk/">http://www.central-lincs.org.uk/</a>
- 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 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

# Key findings of this Monitoring Report

- 1.8 The following points summarise the key findings of this AMR:
  - During 2012/13 progress on the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy is summarised as follows:
    - July/September 2012 a 9 week consultation on the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan May 2012 was undertaken.
    - Feb/March 2013 a public consultation on the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy Partial Draft Plan – Area Policies for Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford January 2013 was undertaken.

- · During the monitoring period;
  - o 319 new homes were completed;
  - There were 148 affordable housing completions (gross);
  - At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 North Kesteven has a deliverable housing supply of 2737 dwellings;
  - 39,035 square metres of additional employment floor space was completed;
  - An average of 52% of the completed employment space was on previously developed land;
  - 1182.5 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 129 Local Wildlife Sites with 46% 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 <a href="http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/area-profiles.aspx">http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/area-profiles.aspx</a>.

#### 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%		
North Kesteven	96,900	108,500	109,900	13.4%	1.3%		
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%		
Lincolnshire	655,600	714,800	724,500	10.5%	1.4%		
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 relevant to this Monitoring Period.
- 2.2 To meet regulation 34(1) (a), the title of Local Plans (DPDs) and SPDs in the LDS are as follows:

#### **Local Development Scheme 2012;**

- Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy DPD
- Central Lincolnshire Allocations DPD
- Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedules (Aligned), for: West Lindsey; North Kesteven; City Of Lincoln.
- 2.3 The current North Kesteven Local Plan was adopted in 2007. The Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy and Allocation documents are intended to replace the existing Local Plan.
- 2.4 To meet regulation 34(1) (b) (i) and (ii), the LDS set out the following timetable for the Core Strategy 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 2012-13
Core Strategy DPD		
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	
Submission and Examination (incl Hearings)	September 2013 – February 2014	
Inspectors Report (Receipt and Response to recommendations )	June – August 2014	
Adoption	September 2014	
Allocations DPD		
Issues and Options (I&O) Consultation	April - June 2014	
Preferred Options/ Draft Plan Consultation	January - March 2015	
Publication (Pre-submission Consultation)	July - August 2015	
Submission and Examination (incl hearings)	September 2015 – February 2016	
Inspectors Report (Receipt and Response to recommendations )	June – July 2016	
Adoption	August 2016	

- 2.5 On the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012, the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee approved for public consultation the first part of the draft Core Strategy for Central Lincolnshire. The policies agreed for the consultation include the generic policies for the Central Lincolnshire area (policies that apply to all development) and an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) that assesses the potential economic environmental and social impacts of the draft polices. The public consultation took place between 9th July to 10th September 2012.
- 2.6 On the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013, the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee approved for public consultation the second part of the draft Core Strategy for Central Lincolnshire. The polices agreed for the consultation include policies for the areas of Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford, and an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) that assesses the potential economic environmental and social impacts of the draft polices. The public consultation took place between 30th January to 13th March 2013.

- 2.7 To meet regulation 34(1) (b) (i), it is confirmed that progress towards Core Strategy DPD adoption is in line with Local Development Scheme Targets.
- 2.8 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.
- 2.9 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 It should be noted that the housing targets for Central Lincolnshire were set out in the East Midlands Regional Plan (March 2009) but were not broken down individually for each district. The Central Lincolnshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) provides more detail on housing completions and land supply, the Central Lincolnshire SHLAA 2012 Update was published in February 2012.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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 2012/13 and a replacement Plan has not yet been adopted. However, it is confirmed that 319 net additional dwellings were completed in the monitoring period and in terms of affordable dwellings, it is confirmed that 148 *gross* affordable homes were completed.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 The Authority does however have data on Council House losses from stock through the 'Right to Buy'. 18 properties were sold during the monitoring period.
- 3.6 In respect of Regulation 34(3)(b), the Local Plan was adopted in 2007, and it is confirmed that since 2006, 3185 net dwellings have been completed, including 748 gross affordable dwellings between 2006 and 2013.
- 3.7 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 2013.

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
Net Completions	584	605	432	413	510	322	319
Cumulative since the Local Plan adoption 2007	584	1189	1621	2034	2544	2866	3185

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
Gross Completions	584	605	432	502	511	322	322
Cumulative since the Local Plan adoption 2007	584	1189	1621	2123	2634	2956	3278

3.8 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 455 for 2012/13.

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

#### Gypsy and Traveller pitches

- 3.9 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).
- 3.10 Table 6 details the net total number of pitches available for use in North Kesteven since 2007. For the 2012/13 monitoring period there were no additional pitches granted planning permission in the district.

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	Current Total
Permanent Planning Permission	0	0	0	28	0	0	28
Temporary Planning Permission	0	0	28	-28	0	0	0

# Affordable housing completions (Gross)

- 3.11 Affordable housing is monitored as gross completions (see earlier commentary). Between 1st April 2012 and 31st March 2013 there were *148* affordable dwelling completions which represents approximately 46 % of total gross dwelling completions in that year.
- 3.12 Table 7 sets out affordable housing completions over the past 7 years.

**Table 7 – Affordable Housing Completions (Gross) 2007-2013** 

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

#### Right to buy sales

3.13 North Kesteven district currently owns 3832 homes. 1355 affordable homes are also operated by other registered social landlords within the District. 18 properties have been sold during the monitoring period under the Right to Buy scheme. This is a significant increase on the previous year's figures. Since the start of the Local Plan period, 53 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

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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			

#### Housing Land Supply in North Kesteven

3.14 At the 31st March 2013 North Kesteven has a deliverable housing supply of 2737 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 cooperate 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.
- 3.15 To meet Regulation 34(4), it is confirmed that no neighbourhood development plans or orders were made ('adopted') in the monitoring period. Both Billinghay and Welbourn villages have designated neighbourhood plan areas but 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.

3.16 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. The Authority has however been working towards developing a CIL charge during this monitoring period. In order to contribute to an aligned approach to funding community needs arising from growth proposals across Central Lincolnshire, the Central Lincolnshire Authorities agreed that their charging schedules are to be prepared together and aligned, so that they can be examined and subsequently adopted at the same time. The programme for delivering a CIL charge is outlined in the 2012 LDS and progress against this will be undertaken in future AMRs.

**Table 9 - Summary of CIL programme** 

Community Infrastructure Charging Schedules	LDS Nov 2014 target date	Progress during AMR period 2012- 13
Consultation on Preliminary Draft Charging Schedules	June-July 2013	
Consultation on Draft Charging Schedules	Jan-Feb 2014	
Submission - of Charging Schedules	Oct 2014	
Examination and Inspectors Report	Nov 2014	
Adoption	April-May 2015	

# 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

3.17 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.

- 3.18 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).
- 3.19 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.
- 3.20 During the monitoring period the preparation of the 2013 Core Strategy document 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.
  - 3.21 With regard to neighbouring authorities, the Central Lincolnshire Authorities and Joint Planning Unit have undertaken a wide range of recent individual co-operation and discussion meetings (Jan-Feb 2013) with all relevant adjoining local authorities. These have assessed and clarified joint engagement and working relationships on key cross boundary strategic planning issues, challenges and priorities. These discussions and engagement are ongoing and will continue.
- 3.22 On 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.

# 4.0 The Economy in North Kesteven

#### Additional employment floor space

- 4.1 This indicator relates to the amount of additional employment 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 2013.
- 4.4 39,035.48 square metres of additional employment floorspace was completed during the monitoring period. This figure is considerably higher than in previous years due to a number of larger developments being completed. Large B2 developments were delivered at Poplar Farm, Dunston Fen and Branston Potatoes. The completion of Siemens on Teal Park and the new workshops delivered at Bracebridge Heath were both large mixed use completions.

**Table 10 - Additional Employment Floor space** 

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

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

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

# 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 Sleaford saw a higher amount of retail floor space delivered compared to previous years due to the redevelopment of the White Hart Mews which has created 2 new retail units.

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							
In Sleaford	336.5	435.52	131	859					
Town									
Centre									
Rest of	0	1581.2	843	323.5					
District									
Total	336.5	2016.72	974	1182.5					

#### 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.

#### 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	89.13
Kesteven (ha)	
Population in North Kesteven (figure from	109,900
ONS Population Estimates 2013)	
Local Nature Reserve area per 1000 people	0.81
(ha)	

#### 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, Metheringham 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%.

Table 15 - SSSI Condition Assessment

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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%					
Metheringham 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.

#### 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 129 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 46% of sites within North Kesteven are in positive conservation management.

Table 16 – Sites with local environmental designations

Information on Locally designated sites	Data
Local Wildlife Sites	123
Local Geological Sites	6
Sites where positive conservation management is being achieved	59 (46%)

#### **Renewable Energy Generation**

5.9 This data looks at the energy generation capacity provided from renewable energy projects granted planning permission during the monitoring period. All non-domestic renewable energy projects granted planning permission during 2012/13 were solar photovoltaic schemes. Four smaller schemes producing between 10kW and 42kW each and one larger scheme at Grange Farm, Burton Pedwardine with an annual output of up to 15 mega watts.

Table 17 – Non-domestic Renewable Energy Projects granted planning permission during 2012/13

Type of Renewable Energy	Energy Production	Site Area (ha)
Biomass	0	0
Photovoltaic	15120.5 kW	32.875
Wind	0	0

#### 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.

Table 18 - Local CO2 emission estimates

	Estimates of CO2 emissions in Tonnes/annum per capita (ie per head of population)							
Local Authority Area	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
North Kesteven	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.7	7	6.3	6.5	6.4
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 2012/13

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

# 6.0 Conclusion and Next Steps

6.1 This is the third 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 Development Framework 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.