

Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (March 2022)

Appendix 1: Baseline Information



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Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Housing	
Housing Stock	The number of dwellings in Central Lincolnshire increased by around 16,731 between 2001 and 2011, equivalent to a 14.7% increase in housing stock. As at 31 March 2017, there were approximately 338,480 homes in Central Lincolnshire.
Housing Mix	The mix of housing within Central Lincolnshire broadly reflects the national picture, although there is a higher proportion of terraced housing and a lower proportion of detached housing in Lincoln.
Housing Tenure	<p>Around two thirds of households in Central Lincolnshire are owner occupiers, of which a slightly higher proportion own with a mortgage or loan than own outright. Owner occupation is slightly more frequent in Central Lincolnshire than the national average. Within the area, there is a notably high level of outright ownership in North Kesteven and West Lindsey in comparison to the City of Lincoln.</p> <p>There has been a notable increase in households renting from a private landlord or agency between 2001 and 2011, with approximately 8,412 additional households.</p>
Household Projections	The number of households in Central Lincolnshire is predicted to increase by 20,579 over the next 25 years from 130,373 in 2016 to 150,952 in 2041. This is an increase of 15.8%. The highest growth in households is predicted to take place in West Lindsey, similar to the regional rate of growth, whilst Lincoln is predicted to have the slowest rate of household growth, below the rate predicted for the region and nationally.
House Prices	Average house prices rose across Central Lincolnshire between January 2016 and January 2021: an increase of 10.1% in Lincoln, 18.5% in North Kesteven and 11.1% in West Lindsey. This is compared to a regional increase of 28.1% and a national increase of 10.9%. Therefore average house price increases are below the regional average but around the national average, with the exception of North Kesteven.
Affordable Housing	The Central Lincolnshire Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) (2020) updated the evidence in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (2015) to provide the evidence for affordable housing need in Central Lincolnshire. The HNA findings suggest that across Central Lincolnshire, there is a newly arising need for 592 affordable homes per year to 2040 taking into account the existing backlog.
Homelessness and Households on the Waiting List	<p>In Lincoln, homeless preventions have decreased slightly since 2018/19, falling from 626 to 431 in 2019/20.</p> <p>The rate of positive action in preventing homelessness per 1,000 households was 4.4% in Lincoln in 2018/19, falling to 2.8% in 2019/20.</p> <p>The rate at which homelessness has been resolved was 4.3% in 2018/19, rising to 4.8% in 2019/20.</p>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
	In January 2018, Lincoln had 1,700 applications on the housing waiting list, most of which were from families and single people. This is higher than North Kesteven, who had 981 and West Lindsey who had 911. By far the largest group on the waiting list were single people at 1510, with families coming in second with 1,292. ¹
Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	<p>A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) was undertaken in 2020 to review the needs Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation across Central Lincolnshire between 2019 and 2040.</p> <p>This GTAA identified an overall need, based on national Planning Policy Traveller Sites definition, of 32 additional pitches between 2019 and 2040 and this need was broken down into 5 year periods identifying that the need to 2024 had been met with 4 surplus pitches provided. Beyond this a further 10 pitches are required from 2024-2029, 11 from 2029-2034, and 15 from 2034-2040.</p> <p>The GTAA also highlighted that there was no need for Travelling Showpeople accommodation in the plan period.</p> <p>A high proportion of the need stems from households with children needing separate accommodation in the next five years and a preference for smaller family-sized sites existed.</p>

Affordable housing completions (gross) 2015/16 - 2019/2020

Gross affordable dwellings completed	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/2020
Lincoln					
Total net number of all dwellings completed	235	188	146		
Gross number of affordable dwellings completed	57	8	43		
Percentage of total dwellings completed that are affordable	24.3	4.2	29		
North Kesteven					
Total net number of all dwellings completed	473	468	577	698	758
Gross number of affordable dwellings completed	76	101	105	147	236

¹ City of Lincoln Council, Lincoln City Profile, 2017-2018

Gross affordable dwellings completed	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/2020
Lincoln					
Percentage of total dwellings completed that are affordable	16.1	21.6	18.2	21.1	31.1
West Lindsey					
Total net number of all dwellings completed	284	300	294		
Gross number of affordable dwellings completed	29	50	31		
Percentage of total dwellings completed that are affordable	10	17	11		

Source: City of Lincoln Council, North Kesteven District Council and West Lindsey District Council

Average House Price (all property types) (£)

Geographical Area	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Lincoln	138,134	138,213	147,720	152,084	152,153	160,394
North Kesteven	177,626	185,687	199,281	210,536	213,901	224,008
West Lindsey	151,584	153,095	166,774	168,388	171,591	181,189
Lincolnshire	161,556	166,655	177,820	184,555	184,766	196,239
East Midlands	164,946	172,959	184,574	191,239	195,100	211,303
England	220,361	231,593	241,061	244,413	247,898	267,000

Source: Land Registry²

² Accessed online 21.1.2022 at <http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/public/house-prices-and-sales>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Health and Wellbeing	
	<p>The health and wellbeing of the Central Lincolnshire population is varied compared to with the national average. Life expectancy is increasing, mirroring the national trend. However in Lincoln, life expectancy is lower than the national average for both males and females (life expectancy elsewhere in Central Lincolnshire is above the national average) and significant health inequalities exist between the most deprived and least deprived areas of the city.</p> <p>Rates of obesity for children in year 6, are above the county and national averages in Lincoln. Excess weight in adults is above the national average in West Lindsey and North Kesteven. The percentage of physically active adults is above the county average in North Kesteven, and above the national average in Lincoln and North Kesteven.</p> <p>The rates per 100,000 for those killed or seriously injured on roads are above the national average in West Lindsey and North Kesteven but just below in Lincoln.</p> <p>In the 2011 Census, 80.6% of residents describe their general health as very good or good, with 83.9% of the population not regarding their day-to-day activities as limited. 5.2% of residents describe their general health as very bad or bad and 8.6% describe their day-to-day activities as limited a lot.</p>

Key Health Statistics

Indicator	Lincoln	West Lindsey	North Kesteven	Lincolnshire	England
Life Expectancy (male) (2018-20)	76.1	79.8	80.7	79.2	79.6
Life Expectancy (female) (2018-20)	80.9	83.7	84.1	82.9	83.2
Obese Children age % 10-11 (2019-20)	22.6	18.8	18.7	20.8	20.2
Excess weight in adults % (2017/19)	61.4	64.6	67.7	65.2	62
Percentage of physically active adults (2017-18)	69.7	65.6	66.5	63.8	66.3
Early Deaths: Cardiovascular (per 100,000) (2016-18)	100.8	70.4	62.3	78.2	71.7
Early Deaths: Cancer (per 100,000) (2016-18)	170	128.8	118.8	132.5	132.3
Dementia diagnoses age 65+ (%) (2019)	79.6	65.9	62.7	66.1	68.7
Killed and seriously injured on roads (per 100,000) (2016-18)	42.0	94.7	63.9	67.4	42.6
Excess Winter Deaths (ratio to non-winter deaths) (Aug 2017-July 2018)	30.4	38.1	29.3	33.3	30.1

Deprivation Score (2015)	28.9	19.2	11.6	20.6	21.8
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Source: Public Health England, Community Health Profiles for Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Social Equality and Community	
Population	<p>The population of Central Lincolnshire on Census Day in 2011 was 299,557, an increase of 15.6% from 2001 when it was 259,132. The latest mid-year population estimates for 2020 estimate the total population of Central Lincolnshire as 314,300.</p> <p>The majority of Central Lincolnshire is sparsely populated, with a population density of 1 person per hectare in North Kesteven and West Lindsey respectively. Lincoln is the most densely populated Local Authority in Lincolnshire at 28 people per hectare (mid-year estimate 2020).</p>
Ageing Population	<p>The largest increase in population is predicted to take place in the proportion of people aged 75 and over. In North Kesteven and West Lindsey for this age group, this is predicted to be above the county average of 88%. These figures suggest an ageing population over the period 2016 to 2041. In contrast, the 50-64 age group of the population is predicted to decline, with populations in Lincoln and West Lindsey in this age group declining above the county average. Growth in the 16-24 age group in Lincoln is double the county average. This reflects the presence of Lincoln University, Bishop Grosseteste University and Lincoln College in the city, where there were 14,105 students studying at Lincoln University and 2,225 at Bishop Grosseteste University in 2016/17.³</p>
Gender	<p>There is a slightly higher proportion of females than males in Central Lincolnshire, making up 51% of the total population.</p>
Race	<p>The area is not diverse in ethnicity, with 93.9% of the population classed as White British. This is similar to the county picture. The second biggest ethnic group is White Other, making up 2.4% of the population (2011 Census).</p>
Religion/Belief	<p>66.25% identify themselves as Christian, which is slightly below the county average of 68.50%. 25.28% of the population stated they had no religion, whilst 7.02% did not state their religion (2011 Census).</p>
Marriage and Civil Partnership	<p>49.5% of the population age 16 plus are married. A lower percentage of the Central Lincolnshire population are single (30.7%). 0.16% of the population are considered to be in a registered same-sex civil partnership, slightly below the county average. The percentage of the population separated (2.3%) or divorced (9.9%) is very similar to the county picture. The percentage who are widowed or a surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership is 7.3%, below the county average.</p>
Deprivation	<p>According to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019, the Central Lincolnshire districts are ranked 68th (Lincoln), 146th (West Lindsey) and 268th (North Kesteven) out of 317 Local Authority districts for multiple deprivation overall, where by the lower the number, the more deprived the area is.</p> <p>When broken down into Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), parts of Lincoln and Gainsborough feature in the top 10% most deprived in England for all domains of deprivation. However, some rural areas of Central Lincolnshire also experience deprivation, particularly in relation to the Barriers to Housing and Services domain.</p>
Child Poverty	<p>In North Kesteven, dependent children under 20 living in poverty has remained consistent over the last 10 years and considerably below the regional and</p>

³ HESA 2018, City of Lincoln Council, Lincoln City Profile, 2017-18

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
	national averages. In West Lindsey, in 2016, 18.7% of children were living in poverty. This is above the regional and national average of 16.3% and 17% respectively. In Lincoln, the number of dependent children under 20 living in child poverty has consistently been above both the regional and national averages, however numbers are decreasing year on year.
Crime and Community Safety	As would be expected for an urban area, Lincoln has an overall crime rate above that of West Lindsey and North Kesteven (96.6 per 1,000 population, compared to 46.6 and 26.9 respectively (2017-18) ⁴ . However, the overall crime rate per 1,000 population is generally falling across Central Lincolnshire. Recorded violence against the person offences has also continued to fall. Lincoln has a noticeably higher rate than the other districts in Central Lincolnshire, with a value that is above the county, regional and national value.

IMD 2019 Rankings by Domain⁵

Local Authority	Overall Rank	Income	Employment	Education, Skills and Training	Health Deprivation and Disability	Crime and Disorder	Barriers to Housing and services	Living Environment
City of Lincoln	68	68	77	57	43	100	112	219
North Kesteven	268	223	205	231	244	316	202	265
West Lindsey	146	130	96	178	143	274	135	128

⁴ Source: Office for National Statistics, accessed online 23.4.19 at www.research-lincs.org.uk/crime-and-safety.aspx

⁵ [Indices of Deprivation 2015 and 2019 \(communities.gov.uk\)](http://indicesofdeprivation.comunities.gov.uk)

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	
Designated Sites	<p>There are no Ramsar sites, SACs or SPAs within Central Lincolnshire.</p> <p>Bardney Limewoods is Central Lincolnshire's only NNR. It comprises of a group of small woods, the largest of which is Chambers Farm Wood, covering an area of 384 ha. The woods are considered to be the most important example of small leaved lime woodland in Britain.</p> <p>There are 23 SSSIs within Central Lincolnshire, covering 526 hectares.</p> <p>LNRs are sites of local importance for wildlife, geology, education or public enjoyment. There are 7 LNRs within Central Lincolnshire: Whisby Nature Park, Swanholme Lakes, Mareham Marshes, Cross O'Cliff Orchard, Lollycocks Field, Theaker Avenue and Owlet.</p> <p>Local Wildlife Sites are areas of land with significant wildlife value (previously known as SNCIs, SINCS or County Wildlife Sites). There are a total of 383 LWSs within Central Lincolnshire⁶. There are 146 sites (36%) in positive management.</p> <p>Ancient woodland is defined as land that has been continually wooded since at least 1600AD. There are two broad types of ancient woodland; ancient semi-natural and planted ancient woodland. In Central Lincolnshire, there are 42 Ancient Woodlands covering an area of some 2,473 hectares.</p>
Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping	<p>Revised Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping for Central Lincolnshire was undertaken in 2019 by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership. There are four BOM categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological network – high quality area; • Ecological network – opportunity for management area; • Opportunity for creation and; • Opportunity for creation – more joined up.
Open Spaces	<p>The Open Space Audit Update June 2021⁷ (2021 Audit) has been prepared to provide an update on the provision of opens spaces in Central Lincolnshire. All publicly accessible open space sites were included in the audit. The 2021 Audit identified a total of 4,594 individual open space sites covering a total area of 18,063 ha across Central Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The largest contributor to open space provision in Central Lincolnshire is natural and semi-natural greenspace (8,692.94 ha), accounting for 48.12% of total provision. There is a reasonably even spread of public outdoor sports facilities across the study area providing good access to such sites. Those areas with limited access to an amenity greenspace greater than 0.2 ha, are generally well served by other forms of open space that provide opportunities for informal recreation. The rural areas of Central Lincolnshire typically have poorer access to an allotment site, with some large villages that have no access.</p>

⁶ Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership, Local Sites Reporting 2020-21

⁷ <https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/central-lincolnshire/local-plan-consultation-library/>

Designated sites in Central Lincolnshire

Designation	Number of Sites 2020/21	Sites in Positive Management
Ramsar Sites	0	
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	0	
Special Protection Areas (SPA)	0	
National Nature Reserves (NNR)	1	
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	23	
Local Nature Reserves (LNR)	7	
Local Wildlife Sites	383	146 (36%)
Local Geological Sites	17	
Local Sites	400	
Ancient Woodland	42	

Source: Natural England, Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Landscape and Townscape	
Nationally designated landscapes	<p>The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB lies partly within the boundary of Central Lincolnshire, the remainder being in East Lindsey, and is the only AONB in the East Midlands region. It covers a total area of 588 km² (119.5 km² of which lie within Central Lincolnshire) and comprises a distinctive and cohesive rolling upland landscape. The AONB is sparsely populated, with the market towns of Alford, Caistor, Horncastle, Louth, Market Rasen and Spilsby acting as important gateways.</p>
Landscape character	<p>National character areas divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. Their boundaries follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries, making them a good decision making framework for the natural environment. Natural England is currently updating and revising the character profiles for each character area. Central Lincolnshire falls within 6 National Character Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincolnshire Wolds • Central Lincolnshire Vale • Northern Lincolnshire Edge & Coversands • The Fens • Southern Lincolnshire Edge; and • Trent & Belvoir vales
Townscape Character	<p>The Lincoln Townscape Assessment⁸ has mapped all the areas in Lincoln in terms of their character. The project identified 108 different character areas across the city. Information on each character areas includes interactive maps of monuments, archaeological research areas, views and ecological areas; a written statement giving an overview and information on the historical development, urban form, condition, use, views into and out of the area and relationship to surrounding areas; people's views and memories and; maps and photos, including historic maps and maps of the urban characteristics.</p> <p>The Lincoln Fringe Character Project is an extension of the Lincoln Townscape Assessment and describes the distinctive character of 30 places around the edges of the City of Lincoln. Each place or 'Character Area' is described according to its historical development and its current character.</p>

⁸ <http://www.heritageconnectlincoln.com/article/plans-in-place>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Built and Historic Environment	
Designated Heritage Assets	<p>Lincoln Cathedral is one of the most important medieval buildings in Europe and its prominent, visually dominant position, on the edge of the Witham Gap along the Lincoln Cliff makes it one of the country's finest sites.</p> <p>Other notable heritage assets and features within Central Lincolnshire include Lincoln Castle, Sleaford Bass Maltings and Gainsborough Old Hall.</p> <p>Scheduled Monuments</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire has 192 Scheduled Monuments, 18 of which are currently on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register⁹.</p> <p>Listed buildings</p> <p>There are over 2,000 listed buildings in Central Lincolnshire, the majority are Grade II. The number of listed buildings has increased over the last 6 years between 2013 and 2019. There are currently 31 listed buildings on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register.</p> <p>Registered Parks and Gardens</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire has 12 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens, including Grade II* Doddington Hall. Brocklesby Park in West Lindsey and Rauceby Hospital in North Kesteven are currently on the Heritage at Risk register.</p> <p>Conservation Areas</p> <p>There are 72 Conservation Areas in Central Lincolnshire, with 11 on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register. However, in March 2019, North Kesteven consulted residents on proposals to designate two new Conservation Areas in Beckingham and Silk Willoughby.</p>
Non Designated Assets	<p>Non-designated assets make up an important and valued part of the historic environment in Central Lincolnshire. One of the principal sources of information on non-designated assets is the Historic Environment Record maintained by Lincolnshire County Council. For Lincoln, the Lincoln Heritage Database also offers a comprehensive record of all known archaeological excavations and discoveries in the city. Additionally, each local authority maintains a list of buildings and structures of local importance.</p>

⁹ [Search the Heritage at Risk Register | Historic England](#)

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Natural Resources - Water	
Supply	<p>Central Lincolnshire lies within an area identified by the Environment Agency as an area of serious water stress where drought is a cause for concern. Water resources therefore require careful management to ensure that demand for water can be achieved in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>The Lincolnshire Limestone aquifer is the main aquifer within the Local Plan area to meet the demand for public water supply, and, to a lesser extent, agriculture. Anglian Water and Seven Trent manage the water supply in the area.</p> <p>The Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) 2019 sets out how Anglian Water seeks to maintain a sustainable balance between water supply and demand from 2020 to 2045. The supply-demand balance in the Greater Lincolnshire area is under significant pressure.</p>
Main Rivers	<p>The main rivers are the River Witham, which rises south of Grantham, passes through Lincoln and discharges into The Wash at Boston, and the River Ancholme, which rises 13 km north of Lincoln and is an important source of water for industry, agriculture and public water supplies within the Ancholme Valley.</p> <p>Other significant rivers include the Rivers Brant, Bain, Sleas and Barlings Eau (all tributaries of the Witham) and the extensive drainage network in the East and West Fens north of Boston. The River Trent skirts the western edge of Central Lincolnshire, running adjacent to Gainsborough. From Cromwell Weir to the River Humber, the river is tidal and flows into the internationally important Humber Estuary (a designated Ramsar, SPA and SAC).</p>
Nitrate Vulnerable Zones	<p>Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) are areas designated as being at risk from agricultural nitrate pollution. The designations are made in accordance with the Nitrate Pollution Prevention Regulations 2015. The majority of Central Lincolnshire, with the exception of a small area to the north east of Morton in West Lindsey, is a designated NVZ.</p>
Source Protection Zones	<p>There are also a number of Source Protection Zones (SPZs) (for groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply), concentrated down the centre of the Plan area, from Kirton in Lindsey in West Lindsey to the north down to Walcot in North Kesteven to the south. Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) are areas of groundwater where there is a particular sensitivity to pollution risks due to the closeness of a drinking water source and groundwater flows. They are used to protect abstractions used for public water supply and other users such as mineral and bottled water plants, breweries, and food production plants. Generally the closer the activity is to a groundwater source, then the greater the risk.</p>
Water quality	<p>Only 14% of English rivers meet good ecological status within the Water Framework Directive, and no river meets good chemical status. There are a number of water bodies within Central Lincolnshire that are currently failing to meet the Water Framework Directive objective of 'Good' status. For example, the overall status of the River Witham in 2016 was moderate. The River Sleas was classified as poor.</p>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Pollution	
Air	<p>Air quality in Central Lincolnshire as a whole is generally considered to be good, however, there is 1 Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Lincoln. It has been designated for levels of NO₂ (Nitrogen Dioxide) that exceed national air quality objectives. The principal source of air pollution in Lincoln is road traffic coupled with the high proportion of heavy goods vehicle traffic in the city centre. The boundary of the AQMA was reduced in July 2018 to reflect improvements in nitrogen dioxide levels. An AQMA for particulates was revoked in August 2018 due to low monitored and modelled concentrations across the City.</p> <p>The fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in 2019 was 5.3%, 5.2% and 5% for Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey respectively. Central Lincolnshire is therefore below the regional average (5.3%) and around the national average (5.1%).¹⁰</p>
Noise	<p>The main sources of noise in the area are from transport sources such as road traffic, rail and aviation. During 2019/20 there were a total of 1,393 noise complaints within the Central Lincolnshire area. The rate of complaints in Central Lincolnshire is slightly above the regional average, but below the national average.</p> <p>Defra, in line with its duties under the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 as the 'competent authority', has developed a strategic noise map identifying 'important areas' where noise levels are likely to be of particular concern. Important areas are those areas where the population is likely to be exposed to elevated levels of noise due to major transport or industrial sources. A number of important areas have been identified in Central Lincolnshire (e.g. six road and two rail related important areas have been identified within Lincoln, and further areas have been identified within both West Lindsey and North Kesteven).</p>
Light	<p>In December 2015, the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) commissioned Land Use Consultants to develop an up-to-date national interactive map of England's light pollution. The updated light pollution maps help define areas of dark skies and can provide the baseline against which to measure potential change introduced by new lighting associated with new developments.</p> <p>Within Central Lincolnshire, Lincoln is the brightest district, ranked the 245th darkest district out of 326 within England. North Kesteven is ranked 58th and West Lindsey is ranked 34th. The Lincolnshire Wolds AONB is ranked 10th darkest out of 34 AONBs in England, with 31% of the AONB falling within the darkest category.¹¹</p>

Number of Complaints About Noise per 1,000 population

Geographical Area	2011/12	2013/14	2015/16	2019/20
Lincoln	7.6	4.8	4.1	7.6
North Kesteven	4.2	5.5	5.0	3.4
West Lindsey	3.7	4.6	3.2	2.5

¹⁰ [Public Health Outcomes Framework - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://www.phe.org.uk)

¹¹ [England's Light Pollution and Dark Skies \(cpre.org.uk\)](https://www.cpre.org.uk)

Geographical Area	2011/12	2013/14	2015/16	2019/20
Central Lincolnshire*	5.1*	4.9*	4.1*	4.5*
East Midlands	5.5	4.9	4.2	4.2
England	7.5	7.4	6.3	6.4

Source: CIEH, *Mean

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Natural Resources – Land Use and Soil	
Soils	<p>According to the National Soil Map of England and Wales¹², the main broad soil types within Central Lincolnshire are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shallow very acid peaty soils over rock; • Freely draining acid loamy soils over rock; • Slowly permeable wet very acid upland soils with a peaty surface; • Freely draining floodplain soils; • Loamy and clayey floodplain soils with naturally high groundwater. <p>The most versatile (Grade 1) agricultural land within Central Lincolnshire occurs in two small areas to the northwest of Gainsborough and the southeast of Sleaford. There are large swathes of Grade 2 agricultural land to the North of Lincoln either side of the A15 and to the South West between Lincoln and Sleaford, broadly following the Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes. The remainder of Central Lincolnshire is largely classified as Grade 3 agricultural land.</p> <p>A recent study¹³ prepared as part of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Climate Change Evidence base identified four main peat areas within Central Lincolnshire: one near Lincoln; one near Gainsborough; one near North Kelsey; and one near Sleaford. The total peatland coverage within Central Lincolnshire is nearly 3,897 ha, equivalent to 1.84% of the Central Lincolnshire land area. The four main areas of peatland cover an area of 3,735 ha or 1.77% of the Lincolnshire Combined Authority land area.</p>
Geology and Minerals	<p>The main minerals produced in Lincolnshire are sand and gravel and limestone and chalk. Oil and gas are also produced. Sand and gravel is the most important of the County's aggregate minerals. Over the ten year period 2004 to 2013, sales from Lincolnshire averaged 2.37 million tonnes (Mt) per annum¹⁴. It is mainly used in the construction industry. One of the main concentrations of current workings is situated in the Trent valley south west of Lincoln. Limestone is mainly worked for aggregates but also for agricultural lime. High quality limestone is quarried in Lincoln for the restoration of Lincoln Cathedral. Chalk is currently extracted from 5 quarries within or adjacent the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB for aggregates and industrial purposes. Chalk is also used for vernacular buildings.</p> <p>There are currently 17 Local Geological Sites (LGS) (2020/21).</p>
Land Affected by Contamination	<p>The greatest legacy of contaminated land is likely to be found in Lincoln, as although they may have been pockets of industrial activity in West Lindsey and North Kesteven, these districts are largely characterised by agricultural activity. Lincoln has an ancient past and was an important military town during Roman Times. The city developed later with the cloth and wool trade, progressing through to the Agricultural Revolution with the development of maltings and breweries. The railways developed in the mid-19th century with heavy engineering and industry growing alongside e.g. foundries, steelworks, tanneries, timber treatment yards and gas works¹⁵.</p>

¹² Accessed online on 25.4.19 at www.magic.defra.gov.uk

¹³ RSK (2021) Central Lincolnshire Local Plan: Climate Change Evidence Base, Task L - Peat Soil Mapping

¹⁴ Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (June 2016)

¹⁵ City of Lincoln Council (2008) Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Waste	
Household Waste	The amount of household waste collected per person increased across all three Central Lincolnshire Local Authorities in 2020/21.
Recycling	All three Central Lincolnshire Local Authorities operate a household kerbside recycling scheme. Recycling rates have remained consistent over the last 5 years.
Energy from Waste	<p>Energy from Waste (EfW) provides a sustainable, safe and affordable waste treatment solution and allows energy to be produced from waste which isn't recycled or composted.</p> <p>The EfW plant in North Hykeham treats up to 190,000 tonnes of residual waste, diverting it from landfill and exporting 105,000 MWh of electricity in the process.</p>

Household Waste Collected (kg per household)

Local Authority	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Lincoln	525.4	507.2	516.6	507.5	543.2
North Kesteven	511.3	520.8	526.3	507.9	554.9
West Lindsey	496.6	514.5	530	515.4	565.2

Source: Waste Data Flow, DEFRA

% Household Waste Reused, Recycled or Composted

Local Authority	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Lincoln	36.2	35.1	33.5	34.1	34.5
North Kesteven	46.1	43.9	42.7	44.1	43.1
West Lindsey	48.9	46	41	42.9	42

Source: Waste Data Flow, DEFRA

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Climate Change Effects and Energy	
Climatic Factors	<p>There is clear evidence to show that climate change is happening. Climate projections for the UK¹⁶ suggest that we can expect the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • higher average temperatures, particularly in summer and winter • changes in seasonal rainfall patterns • rising sea levels • more very hot days and heatwaves • more intense downpours of rain • higher intensity storms <p>As well as changes in average climate, there could be changes in weather extremes. Extreme events are likely to be more frequent in the future and often have the most significant impacts.</p>
Carbon Dioxide Emissions	<p>Consultants were appointed in July 2020 to investigate the scale of Central Lincolnshire's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, and the opportunities that exist to tackle these problems locally, including through the Local Plan. This work set out the overarching context for Central Lincolnshire identifying what would need to be done in order to achieve a carbon neutral Central Lincolnshire by 2050 (and 2041 to align to the science-based approach) to accord with the Paris Agreement. Emissions cuts must average -13.4% per year to deliver a Paris aligned carbon budget.</p>
Renewable Energy	<p>Installed capacity of electricity generated from renewable sources is increasing year on year in Central Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The Sleaford Renewable Energy Plant has been in commercial operation since September 2014 and has a generation capacity of 38MW. It generates enough electricity to power 65,000 homes using straw as a fuel source, saving 150,000 tonnes of CO₂ per annum. The process is virtually carbon neutral because the combustion of the straw only releases the carbon dioxide that the wheat absorbed from the atmosphere during its growth. Annually the plant combusts 240,000 tonnes of straw (approximately 55 bales per hour), sourced mainly from farms within a 30-mile radius of the plant.</p>

Number of Renewable Energy Installations

Local Authority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Lincoln	1,225	1,244	1,278	1,298	1,314
North Kesteven	2,943	3,009	3,096	3,185	3,226
West Lindsey	2,520	2,574	2,654	2,732	2,770

Source: BEIS

¹⁶ www.ukcip.org.uk

Total Renewable Energy Capacity (MW)

Local Authority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Lincoln	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.824
North Kesteven	153.6	153.9	154.6	157	155.324
West Lindsey	65.8	66.5	77.5	78	79.554

Source: BEIS

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Climate Change Adaptation and Flood Risk	
Flood Risk	<p>Within Central Lincolnshire, a number of homes, businesses and related infrastructure are located within areas of low lying land that are at risk of flooding. Flooding of buildings and infrastructure is the main climate risk in Central Lincolnshire and increased incidences of flood events may lead to increased health problems.</p> <p>The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 and Level 2 (June 2021) provide the best current information regarding flood risk in the Central Lincolnshire area. The main flood risks within the Lincoln Policy Area for the urban areas of Lincoln are considered to be from fluvial flooding from the River Witham, River Till and the Fossey Canal, and for Gainsborough from the River Trent which is tidal.</p> <p>Local Planning Authorities are required to consult the Environment Agency (EA) on all applications for development in flood risk areas (except minor development). During 2020/21, the EA raised an objection to 10 planning permissions on the grounds of flood risk and 3 on the grounds of water quality. All of these issues were resolved and the objections were withdrawn before the final decisions were made.</p>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Transport and Accessibility	
Traffic on Major Roads	Across Central Lincolnshire as a whole there are no motorways and approximately 40 miles of dual carriageway. The key roads in the area include the A15, A17, A159, A158 and A46.
Travel to Work	<p>In terms of travel to work time, North Kesteven has the longest travel to work time in Lincolnshire of 32 minutes. West Lindsey is 23 minutes and Lincoln is 21 minutes¹⁷.</p> <p>As a predominantly rural area, it is not surprising that there is a heavy reliance on car use across large parts of Central Lincolnshire. In 2016, 73,630 travelled to work in Central Lincolnshire using a private car or van. Just 14,044 travelled on foot¹⁸.</p> <p>Between the 2001 and 2011 Census there has been an increase in those working from home across the Central Lincolnshire area, with the largest increase in West Lindsey. Improvements to mobile communications and internet connectivity could be one of the main factors in this increase.</p>
Access to Services	<p>The proportion of households in Lincolnshire without access to a car has fallen from 31.1% in 1981 to 18% in 2011. Within Central Lincolnshire, the percentage of households without access to a car in Lincoln and Gainsborough is above the county, regional and national average (at 29.6% and 31% respectively at the time of the 2011 Census). The figure for West Lindsey and North Kesteven is below the county, regional and national average. This means that a significant proportion of the population rely on alternative modes to the private car to access shops, services, facilities and employment.</p> <p>Within the Lincoln area, the bus network is relatively good with most services operating commercially. However, outside of Lincoln services typically remain very limited in the evenings and weekends.</p> <p>The Great Northern Great Eastern railway line runs through Central Lincolnshire with stations at: Gainsborough Lea Road, Saxilby, Lincoln, Metheringham, Ruskington and Sleaford. Lincoln and Sleaford are the main rail hubs, providing connections to the East Coast Mainline and destinations beyond.</p>

¹⁷ ONS. Average home to work travel time, ages 16 plus, October to December 2017. July 2018 at <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/adhocs/06022averagehometoworktraveltimeages16plusoctodec2015>

¹⁸ ONS Travel to work methods, 2016, Labour Force Survey, accessed online on 24.5.19 at <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/adhocs/008005traveltoworkmethodsandthetimeittakestocommutefromhometoworklabourforcesurvey2007to2016>

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Employment	
Employment and Unemployment	<p>The percentage of the population of working age that is economically active in North Kesteven is above the regional and national average (85.8%). In Lincoln and West Lindsey, the percentage of economically active is below the regional and national average (73.5% and 67.5% respectively). Of those of a working age, the percentage that are currently in employment is above the regional and national average in North Kesteven (80.7%). In Lincoln and West Lindsey, the percentage below the regional and national average (69.8% and 67.5% respectively). Of those of a working age, the percentage that are currently unemployed is below the regional and national average in North Kesteven (3.7%), above in Lincoln (6.6%) and around the same in West Lindsey (5%)</p> <p>Job density is the ratio of total jobs to resident population aged 16-64. A job density of one would mean there is a job for every resident aged 16-64. Within Lincoln, job density is 0.89, within West Lindsey 0.59 and within North Kesteven 0.73 (compared to the East Midlands 0.79 and England 0.85)¹⁹.</p>
Employment Sectors	<p>The most common employment sectors in Central Lincolnshire, when compared to the national average, are manufacturing, education, and wholesale and retail trade. In contrast information and communication, financial and insurance activities and professional, scientific and technical activities are the least common when compared to the national average.</p>
Income	<p>The gross weekly pay of full time workers living in Central Lincolnshire varies between the districts. West Lindsey workers have the highest gross weekly pay at £586.2. North Kesteven workers have receive the lowest gross weekly pay at £520.7. The gross weekly pay for Lincoln and West Lindsey is above the regional average and for North Kesteven, below the regional average. Gross weekly pay across Central Lincolnshire is below the national average of £613.3.</p> <p>There are variations between gross weekly pay for full time male and full time female workers, demonstrating a gender pay gap in the area. Across Central Lincolnshire, female workers are earning less than male workers. This reflects both the regional and national picture.</p>
Qualifications	<p>The percentage of people achieving NVQ2 and above is above the regional and national average in Lincoln (78.6%) and West Lindsey (78.7%), but below in North Kesteven (73.4%). Those achieving NVQ4 and above are below the national average across all 3 Central Lincolnshire districts.</p>
Education	<p>Central Lincolnshire is served by a mix of types of school, including Local Authority Maintained, Academies and Free Schools, and LCC retains the statutory responsibility for ensuring sufficiency of places at any of these. There are currently 115 primary, 20 secondary, 1 all through (primary and secondary as part of the same school), 18 school-based sixth forms, and 8 special schools in Central Lincolnshire²⁰.</p>
Training and Skills	<p>The latest National Employers Skills Survey (2019) was published in October 2020²¹. Overall, 5% of employers reported that they had skill-shortage vacancies and 13% reported that they had skills gaps among their workforce. These figures were in line with levels in 2017 regarding skills gaps (13%), but</p>

¹⁹ Office for National Statistics- job density (2020) available at: www.nomisweb.co.uk

²⁰ Central Lincolnshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan, December 2020

²¹ [Employer skills survey 2019 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/employer-skills-survey-2019)

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
	<p>represented a slight decrease since 2017 regarding skill-shortage vacancies (6%). Skill-shortage vacancy density was highest in the Construction and Manufacturing sectors, where 36% of vacancies were proving hard-to-fill because of applicants lacking the appropriate skills, qualifications or experience.</p> <p>The local picture reflects the national one. The Greater Lincolnshire Local Economic Partnership (GLLEP) has identified skills gaps as a barrier to economic growth and therefore skills has been identified by the GLLEP as one of seven priority themes for growth.</p> <p>The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 includes a domain for education, skills and training. Parts of Gainsborough and Lincoln are in the top 10% most deprived in the country for education, skills and training.</p>

Employment and Unemployment (%) (Oct 2020 – Sep 2021)

All people	Lincoln	North Kesteven	West Lindsey	East Midlands	England
Economically Active (aged 16 and over)	73.5	85.8	67.5	78.3	78.8
In employment	69.8	80.7	67.5	74.2	74.9
Unemployed	6.6	3.7	5	5	4.9

Source: Nomis – ONS Annual Population Survey

Table 2.35: Employment by Sector (2020)

Sector	Lincoln	North Kesteven	West Lindsey	East Midlands	England
Total full-time jobs (%)	61.1	69.2	65.4	67.1	68.1
Total part-time jobs (%)	38.9	28.2	34.6	32.9	31.9
Employee jobs by industry (%)					
Mining and quarrying	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Manufacturing	7.4	12.8	13.5	12.4	7.8
Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.4
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2.3	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.7
Construction	2.8	6.4	7.7	4.5	4.7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.7	17.9	19.2	16.5	15.0
Transportation and storage	2.3	3.8	3.8	7.1	5.2
Accommodation and food service activities	7.4	6.4	5.8	6.4	7.2

Sector	Lincoln	North Kesteven	West Lindsey	East Midlands	England
Information and communication	2.3	3.8	1.9	3.1	4.7
Financial and insurance activities	1.5	0.6	0.5	1.7	3.6
Real estate activities	1.9	1.3	2.7	1.8	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	4.6	5.8	5.8	7.2	9.0
Administrative and support service activities	6.5	7.7	4.8	7.1	9.0
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	7.4	5.1	4.8	3.9	4.2
Education	11.1	7.7	9.6	9.2	9.0
Human health and social work activities	22.2	11.5	11.5	13.4	13.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.9	1.8	2.7	2.1	2.2
Other service activities	1.9	2.1	1.3	1.6	2.0

Source: ONS Business Register and Employment Survey

Earnings by Place of Work (2021)

	Lincoln	North Kesteven	West Lindsey	East Midlands	England
Gross Weekly Pay (£)					
Full-time workers	566.7	520.7	586.2	559.8	613.3
Male full-time workers	628.9	540.2	592.7	600.7	660.5
Female full-time workers	494.3	501.7	531.8	492.8	557.3
Hourly Pay (£) – Excluding Overtime					
Full-time workers	14.84	13.05	14.50	13.95	15.68
Male full-time workers	16.17	13.06	14.63	14.49	16.35
Female full-time workers	13.36	12.51	12.11	12.87	14.84

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings

Skills Profile (%) (Jan - Dec 2020)

Qualifications	Lincoln	North Kesteven	West Lindsey	East Midlands	England
NVQ4 and above	34.7	36.7	31.1	37.2	42.8
NVQ3 and above	58.6	53	55.7	58.2	61.2
NVQ2 and above	78.6	73.4	78.7	76.6	78.0
NVQ1 and above	86.4	88.6	85.8	87.5	87.9
Other qualifications	#	#	10.7	6.3	5.9
No qualifications	#	7.6	#	6.2	6.2

sample size too small for reliable estimate

Source: Nomis – ONS Annual Population Survey

Topic	Current Baseline Situation
Local Economy	
Additional Floorspace – Employment	In the adopted Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, 111.1 ha of land is allocated for strategic employment use. In 2017/18, 53,324.5 m ² of new employment floorspace was developed across Central Lincolnshire. The greatest amount of floorspace was developed for mixed use development (18,387 m ²), followed by B2 uses (17,725 m ²). In Lincoln, there was a loss of 189.59 m ² of B1 employment land to another land use.
Additional Floorspace - Town Centre Uses	In 2017/18, 11,501.84 m ² of new floorspace for town centre uses was developed across Central Lincolnshire.
The visitor economy	Lincoln’s national and international reputation as a major tourist attraction brings considerable benefit to the local economy, attracting visitors and investment into the city. Lincoln Cathedral and Castle are the prime focus for tourism, but there are opportunities to develop less well known and publicised areas of the city, such as the Brayford Pool and the area centre around the Collection Museum. In North Kesteven, the main tourist attractions include Cranwell Aviation Centre, Whisby Natural World Centre and the National Centre for Craft and Design. In West Lindsey, the key attractions include Gainsborough Old Hall, Woodside Wildlife Centre and Bransby Horses.
Broadband	<p>According to the independent thinkbroadband.com website, around 89% of Lincolnshire premises can now access a broadband speed of 24Mbps or above.</p> <p>In order to further extend the availability of Next Generation Access (NGA) broadband infrastructure (capable of delivering download speeds of at least 30Mbps) across Lincolnshire, LCC has set up the On Lincolnshire Broadband Programme and intends to procure further coverage of NGA broadband infrastructure in areas within its programme area where such broadband is currently unavailable.</p>

