

East Lindsey Core Strategy 2016 – 2031 Examination

Lincolnshire County Council Hearing Statement

12 July 2017

Matter 1 – Duty to Cooperate, Local Development Scheme, consultation, Habitats Regulations, accordance with the Act and Regulations and consistency with national policy

Main issue: Are the Plans (CS and Settlement Proposals DPD) legally compliant in these areas?

Questions:

Duty to cooperate [S20(5) and S33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004]

- 1. What are the relevant ‘strategic matters’? [defined as: (a) Sustainable development or use of land that has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas and (b) sustainable development or use of land in a two tier area if the development or use is a county matter or would have a significant impact on a county matter – S33A(4)]***

The strategic matters considered in the preparation of the Plan are set out in Section 4 of the Duty to Cooperate Statement (CD95). The last column of the summary table of strategic working (p. 17) indicates what cooperation took place to resolve the strategic matters and demonstrates ongoing cooperation between authorities.

- 2. What cooperation has taken place on these ‘strategic matters’ during the preparation of the plans? Has the engagement been constructive, active and ongoing?***

There are ongoing and standing arrangements for cooperation. These formal arrangements are listed in Section 5 of the Duty To Co-operate Statement (CD95);

- 3. What have been the outcomes of this cooperation? Has the cooperation maximised the effectiveness of plan preparation? Has the duty to cooperate been met?***

The outcomes of co-operation are listed in column 4 of summary table of strategic working (p. 17) and confirm that DtC has been met.

4. Have there been any requests from neighbouring authorities to help accommodate their unmet development needs, including in particular for housing?

No such requests have been made from NE Lincolnshire, Central Lincolnshire or SE Lincolnshire.

Local Development Scheme

5. Have the plans been prepared in accordance with the Local Development Scheme [March 2016], including in terms of timing and content? [S19(1)]

Yes.

6. Is the plan period of 2016 to 2031 justified?

The 15 year time period is consistent with NPPF but shorter than for both Central Lincolnshire and South East Lincolnshire, which run to 2036. Extending the Plan period to 2036 would allow for a more strategic time horizon in which to plan for growth and infrastructure in the more sustainable locations such as Horncastle. Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) is committed (Manifesto May 2017) to boosting the appeal of Lincolnshire's resorts and will rename the A158 as the "Lincolnshire Coastal Highway". As part of this, a bypass for Horncastle is also being considered. LCC has proposed additional sites in its representations which would deliver the extra growth required by extending the plan period to 2036. However, it is understood that unallocated sites will not be discussed (Examination Guidance Note, para.22). In the circumstances, LCC would urge a speedy review of the plan to be ready for submission within 3 years of adoption.