

# **King's Lynn & West Norfolk Local Plan Review**

## **Duty to Cooperate Statement**

**May 2021**

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## Summary

The Localism Act 2011 imposed upon local planning authorities and others a 'duty to cooperate' on strategic planning matters (i.e. those that affect more than one planning authority area). The NPPF also gives guidance on statements of common ground between local planning authorities. This section outlines how the Borough Council has addressed that cooperation during the monitoring periods.

### Neighbouring Planning Authorities

The Borough Council cooperates with its neighbouring local planning authorities in a range of planning matters of mutual interest. Particular focuses during the years under review were:

- Developing cooperation arrangements with Norfolk County Council, Breckland Council, Broadland District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, North Norfolk District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council and the Broads Authority. This includes the ongoing work involved with the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (NSPF) Member Forum, with representation of each authority by a senior member, and the preparation of the NSPF which also performs the function of a 'statement of common ground' between the authorities and other organisations.
- Production of the NSPF is supported by a number of working groups which cover the following topics: Housing, Economy, Infrastructure, and Delivery. The Norfolk Strategic Planning Group (NSPG), a group of officers from each local district and the County, reports to the NSPF Member Forum. The NSPF is a non-statutory document for the whole of Norfolk. The document outlines a series of agreements between all of the authorities including, shared objectives on housing, employment and infrastructure. The NSPF version 3 is endorsed by all the relevant authorities and the final version was published in April 2021. This was reviewed in light of changes to national planning policy. As part of this work the relevant authorities also considered further green infrastructure, the need for housing with care, 5G and fibre optic broadband, and jointly reviewed Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs).
- Liaison with Fenland District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council Highway Authority (HA), Norfolk County Council HA and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) to coordinate the implementation of the Local Plan allocation in the Wisbech fringe area. The main part of Wisbech is within Fenland District Council; however, the eastern fringes of the town are within King's Lynn and West Norfolk.
- Coastal management issues with adjacent coastal authorities (North Norfolk District Council and South Holland District Council). The Borough Council's coast is covered by two shoreline management plans. The North Norfolk Shoreline Management Plan

(SMP 5): Old Hunstanton to Kelling Hard, was adopted in August 2011. The Wash Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 4): Gibraltar Point to Old Hunstanton was adopted in April 2010 and is being implemented through the Wash East Coast Management Strategy (2015) and the Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan (2020).

Cooperation mechanisms:

- Ongoing engagement through the NSPG.
- Ongoing engagement through the Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) Monitoring & Mitigation & GI Coordination Panel (HRAMMGI).
- Engagement with the A47 Alliance.
- Engagement with the Ely Area Improvements Task Force (rail).
- Ongoing engagement through Norfolk Planning Officers Group.
- Ongoing engagement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) Mayor.
- Joint work with Cambridgeshire planning authorities on gypsy and traveller accommodation needs assessment.
- Informal discussions between planning policy officers on sites, development proposals and emerging issues with cross-boundary implications issues by telephone, email and meetings.

Other ongoing engagement at officer level including:

- Norfolk Authorities Chief Executives
- Norfolk Strategic Services Group
- Norfolk Planning and Biodiversity Topic Group
- Norfolk Conservation Officers Group
- Greater Anglia LEP via Norfolk Growth Group
- CPCA Business Board (the LEP)/Mayor via Strategic Economic Planning Group
- Formal consultations on development plan documents, supplementary planning documents, and planning applications with potential cross-boundary implications.
- The Borough Council is a member, and sits on the management group, of the Norfolk Coast (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Partnership.

### **Other 'Duty' Bodies**

**Environment Agency:** Long standing working arrangements (including joint projects) between the two organisations on a range of issues, especially on planning policies for flood risk zones (a major issue in parts of the Borough), flood defences, SFRA and Shoreline Management Plans, water quality, recreation, etc. Statutory and informal consultations, including representations on the Local Plan review.

**Historic England:** Representations and advice on the Local Plan review. In March 2017 King's Lynn was awarded Heritage Action Zone status by Historic England. The aim of this is to ensure that new development works with historic Lynn and reinforces the economic, social and environmental vitality of the modern town. Over the next five years, the project

will research the history of key sites in King's Lynn, identify the most important historic buildings and areas, encourage the development of affordable well-designed homes reinforcing the character of the town, find new uses for underutilised space in the town centre and provide a programme of community events to get people involved in caring for, and enjoying, the town's heritage. This is being achieved via a partnership approach led by the Borough Council. The partners are Historic England, Norfolk County Council, West Norfolk Chamber of Commerce, and King's Lynn Town Centre Partnership & Business Improvement District.

**Natural England:** Representations and advice on the Local Plan review, particularly in relation to designated nature conservation sites and issues (e.g. stone curlews), and Habitats Regulations Assessments.

**Mayor of London:** Not relevant to the Borough.

**Civil Aviation Authority:** No relevant strategic issues have arisen during the review period.

**Office of Rail and Road:** No relevant strategic issues have arisen during the period.

**Homes England:** Engagement with the strategic Local Plan allocation at West Winch for at least 2,500 dwellings in the local plan review period (to 2036) and around 4,000 dwellings in the fullness of time. Also, engagement through their ACP (Accelerated Construction Programme): approximately 10 sites owned by the Borough Council have been put forward.

**Clinical Commissioning Group:** Consultation and liaison.

**Transport for London:** Not relevant to the Borough.

**Integrated Transport Authorities:** Not relevant to the Borough.

**Norfolk County Council as the Local Highway Authority:** Representations and advice on the Local Plan review. Advice and formal representations in relation to planning applications, submitted to the Borough Council, for the strategic allocations within the Local Plan.

**Marine Management Organisation:** Engagement between the Borough Council and the Marine Management Organisation on the marine Plans, East Offshore and East Inshore, including relationship to the local plan review.

## 1. Introduction to the Duty to Cooperate

The Duty to Cooperate Statement covers the pre-submission version of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Local Plan Review April 2021. This statement has been issued in draft alongside the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan Review to enable all neighbouring authorities, prescribed bodies (under Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004<sup>1</sup> as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011<sup>2</sup>) and all other interested parties to comment on this legal requirement through representation to the Pre-Submission Local Plan.

This statement reflects compliance with the Duty to Cooperate up until the time of going to print (April 2021) Further meetings and continuous discussions are taking place with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies. The outcome of these will be reflected in the final Duty to Cooperate Statement in support of the submission version of the Local Plan.

The Duty to Co-operate (the Duty) is set out in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011). This applies to all local planning authorities, county councils in England and to a number of other 'prescribed' bodies. Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out who those 'prescribed' bodies are<sup>3</sup>.

Local planning authorities, county councils and other 'prescribed' bodies are required to co-operate with each other to address strategic matters relevant to their areas in the preparation of a development plan document. The new duty relates to sustainable development or use of land in connection with infrastructure which is strategic and that would have a significant impact on at least two local planning areas or on a planning matter that falls within the remit of the County Council.

The duty requires:

- Councils and public bodies to 'engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing bases' to develop strategic policy
- Councils to set out planning policies to address such issues; and
- Councils to consider joint approaches to plan making;

Additionally, paragraph 20 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019)<sup>4</sup> sets out the strategic priorities where collaboration amongst public bodies is expected and states that strategic priorities across local boundaries should be properly co-ordinated and clearly reflected in individual Local Plans. These are:

- The homes and jobs needed in the area;
- The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/section/33A>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/section/110#section-110-1>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/4>

<sup>4</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/810197/NPPF\\_Feb\\_2019\\_revised.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/810197/NPPF_Feb_2019_revised.pdf)

- The provision of health, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes, green infrastructure.

The NPPF (2019) also states within paragraph 24 to 27 how Local Planning Authorities should engage effectively to identify relevant strategic planning matters which cross local boundaries. Local Planning Authorities are expected to be able to demonstrate evidence of having successfully cooperated to plan for issues with cross-boundary impacts when their Local Plans are submitted for examination. The NPPF also highlights the importance of joint working to meet development requirements that cannot be wholly met within a single local planning authority area, through either joint planning policies or informal strategies such as infrastructure and investment plans.

Collaborative working is expected between:

- County and District authorities
- Authorities with cross boundary issues or other spatial impacts (non- local)
- Local communities and relevant bodies including the Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Nature Partnerships, and the Marine Management Organisation.

This is reinforced within the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) published in 2018 which sets out what is required and gives further guidance on the Duty to Cooperate, including that local authority officers and councillors have an important role to play in the process and that the Duty requires active and sustained engagement, working together constructively from the outset of plan preparation.

The outcome of this continual process of engagement is that plans are put in place to provide the land and infrastructure necessary to support current and projected future levels of development.

### **General Consultation Arrangements**

Throughout the Local Plan process the Council has consulted with all neighbouring Parish, Borough and County Councils on the Local Plan Review. Similarly, statutory and non-statutory organisations/ bodies at each stage were notified, invited to attend events and asked for comment.

As issues were raised by consultees the Council worked with neighbouring local authorities and other bodies to resolve these by using the information provided to inform the choices made and adapting our policy approach to reflect these. The Statement of Consultation, alongside the consultation results themselves, illustrate this, including our decision to implement brand new policies such as the: Climate Change Policy, Norfolk Coast AONB Policy, Historic Environment Policy and new Housing Policies.

The Sustainability Appraisal also indicates where consultee comments have informed the choices made which refers back to the last point of implementing new policies. This is to reflect the general importance present in baseline data and to individual consultees (statutory and non-statutory), on incorporating further protection of sustainability issues which may arise over the plan period within stronger or newly development policies within the local plan review.

At an officer level we maintain regular contact with colleagues at our neighbouring authorities and other organisations through email/ telephone discussion or meetings/steering groups as appropriate.

## **2. Strategic context**

### **Strategic Geography**

The Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk is about 100 miles north of London and extends from the north Norfolk coast, along the eastern side of The Wash, through the Marshlands, Fens, and Brecks to the borders of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. The regional centres of Peterborough, Cambridge and Norwich are some 40-50 miles distant creating a role for King's Lynn as a service centre and economic driver to a sub-region within excess of 200,000 population.

The Borough is the fourth largest district in England covering an area of some 550 square miles (142,879 hectares) with a population of 151,900 (2017 estimate). The main population centre is King's Lynn (41,590) though the borough also includes the market town of Downham Market (9,994), the coastal resort of Hunstanton (4,210) and more than 100 villages of varying sizes. By 2036 some 29% of the population will be over retirement age, with 17% of residents aged over 75; while the proportion of those under 25 will be below the national average.

Main transport routes include the A47(T) trunk road (Leicester to Lowestoft), three principal roads (A10, A17 and A134), a direct electrified rail service to Cambridge and London, sea links to northern and eastern Europe and an extensive system of navigable waterways.

Although outside of the borough, the town of Wisbech abuts the boundary and some of the town's urban area is within the borough. Wisbech presently fulfils the role of a local service centre to the western part of Norfolk although it sits within the Fenland District Council local authority area.

The diverse nature of the borough, and its geographical size, requires that a significant amount of cross-border, multi organisation working is required to deliver the sustainability objectives set out in the Core Strategy. The full records of these are detailed later in the report.



### **3. Strategic Development Strategy & Key Relationships**

#### **Regional Level (Cross Border Cooperation Initiatives)**

There are a number of strategic matters which are addressed on a regional level regarding the duty to cooperate, this includes ongoing alliances and discussions on strategic matters including transport, the economy, the environment and social improvements:

- The A47 Alliance (seeks to promote the dualling of the A47)
- Wisbech Access Strategy Steering Group (ongoing discussions)
- Transport East
- Ely Area Taskforce and Programme Board (Officer based meetings)
- The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership (ongoing)
- Norfolk Coast (AONB) Partnership
- New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
- Water Resources East

#### **Transport**

##### **The A47 Alliance<sup>5</sup>**

The A47 is the main east-west economic corridor in East Anglia. It links Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth in the east with Norwich, King's Lynn and Peterborough in the west. The A47 passes through the highway authority areas of Norfolk, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk; and the planning authority areas including King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Breckland, Broadland, Fenland, South Norfolk, Great Yarmouth and East Suffolk.

The A47 is part of the Trans-European Network and is designated by the British government as a trunk road. The A47 provides a link to key transport hubs such as King's Lynn and Lowestoft Ports and Norwich International Airport and Great Yarmouth. However, the poor quality and unreliability of parts of the route means it does not function as the 'gateway to growth' it should be.

The A47 Alliance is the collaboration of a variety of local authorities, business leaders, New Anglia LEP, and politicians from Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Suffolk to work on the promotion of dualling the A47. The case being put forward will help a number of factors including:

- Help boost the economic prosperity of a large part of East of England and make a significant contribution to the national and local economy
- Creation of jobs and improve quality of life
- Reduce CO2 pollution from queuing traffic
- Help accommodate additional traffic due to population growth
- Reduce the amount of time it takes for residents to travel and reduce traffic accidents

##### **Wisbech Access Strategy Steering Group<sup>6</sup>**

The Wisbech Access Strategy was developed jointly by Cambridgeshire County Council, Fenland District Council and Wisbech Town Council, with input from the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and Norfolk County Council given the cross-county issues (including the A47).

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<sup>5</sup> [The A47 Alliance » A47 Alliance](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Wisbech Access Strategy - Fenland District Council](#)

The Wisbech Access Strategy is a package of individual transport schemes that aim to improve the transport network in Wisbech. They have been tested to make sure that they are the best solutions to address the current problems on the transport network. They will also support future housing and job growth as set out in the Fenland Local Plan.

The strategy is made up of a short, medium- and long-term approaches. The short-term package, with £10.5 million of funding from Growth Deal Funding from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Business Board, comprises schemes at:

- New Bridge Lane/Cromwell Road Signals;
- the Southern Access Road Phased Approach;
- a new A47 South Junction;
- an Elm High Road/Weasenham Lane Roundabout;
- modifications to the A47/Elm High Road Roundabout;
- and a new A47/Broadend Road Roundabout.

## **Transport East**

Transport East is the Sub-national Transport Body for Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock. The partnership provides a single voice for councils, business leaders and partners on the region's transport strategy and strategic transport investment priorities, working in close collaboration with the government and the rest of the UK.

As one of seven Sub-national Transport Bodies covering England, Transport East will develop a Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan for the region which ensures that transport fully supports its members shared ambitions for economic growth, quality of life and prosperity.

Transport East provides a vehicle to:

- Develop and communicate a single transport strategy and strategic investment programme, ensuring our priorities are embedded in the delivery plans of government, Network Rail, Highways Agency, private sector and other transport providers.
- Provide a strong, loud and collective regional voice in the national planning, prioritisation and delivery of strategic transport improvements, helping to ensure investment decisions are locally supported, evidence-led, joined-up and take a strategic long-term approach
- Enhance the work of existing local transport bodies and Local Enterprise Partnerships by ensuring that funding and strategy decisions about the sub-national transport system are informed by local knowledge, outcomes and requirements
- Provide leadership and strategic oversight on strategic transport priorities which cross local authority or regional boundaries.
- Enable a 'single voice' engagement with the Department for Transport, infrastructure agencies (such as Highways England and Network Rail) and service providers (such as bus and train operating companies), and the East of England's major ports and airports.
- Share technical expertise and resources across the partners to assist with the development of a coherent and integrated transport network which is better able to respond to the demands of growth and changing technology.

## **Ely Area Taskforce, Programme Board and Communications Group (Officer based meetings)**

### **Summary**

#### **Ely (Area Capacity Enhancement) Taskforce (to be renamed North Anglia Taskforce)**

**Purpose:** Provide the strategic context and direction for the development and delivery of the Ely Area Capacity Enhancement (EACE) Programme to meet stakeholder objectives & desired outcomes.

#### **Specific Activities & Objectives:**

- Champion local stakeholder objectives & desired outcomes and use them to help define the programme requirements by providing strategic guidance to the Programme Board
- Establish and promote the national strategic context for the EACE Programme from a passenger and freight perspective
- Support production of business cases for gateway decisions within the Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline (RNEP), especially the Strategic Case
- Lead strategic communications & ensure alignment with programme consultations
- Maintain an interest in work taking place in other strategic rail initiatives
- Determine potential 3rd Party sources of funding

#### **Core Membership:**

- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority
- New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
- Strategic Freight Network
- Department for Transport – passenger and freight
- Network Rail – passenger and freight
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- East Cambridgeshire District Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Suffolk County Council
- Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk
- West Suffolk Council
- East Suffolk Council
- Train Operating Companies; Greater Anglia, Great Northern (Govia Thameslink Railway), East Midlands Railway and Cross Country
- Freight Service Providers; Freightliner and DB Cargo Ltd.

#### **Wider Membership:**

- Port of Felixstowe
- Chambers of Commerce
- MPs

#### **Ely Area Capacity Enhancement (EACE) Programme Board (PB) (to be renamed North Anglia Programme Board)**

The purpose of the EACE PB is to provide support, advice and guidance to the sponsor and development project team, to maximise the opportunities for successful development of the project.

It gives consistent visibility to key stakeholders of the position of the current programme status.

The PB will review issues that are referred to them (or identified by PB members) and resolve these through their stakeholder relationships and ability to influence by nature of their position and experience.

Membership consists of representatives from Network Rail, Strategic Freight Network, New Anglia LEP, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, DfT, Cambridgeshire County Council, Suffolk County Council, and BCKLWN.

### **Ely Comms Working Group**

An Ely Comms Working Group supports the consultation process on the Programme, meeting after Ely Area Taskforce meetings.

## **Environment**

### **The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership**

The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership (WNNMP) represents a large number of relevant authorities and is the organisation that manages the delivery of statutory duties to The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Protected Area network. A Marine Protected Area (MPA) network was created to safeguard and ensure the long-term survival of Norfolk's unique coastline, marine species and habitats. The four Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and one Special Area of Conservation (SAC) includes:

1. The Wash SPA
2. The Wash & North Norfolk Coast SAC
3. North Norfolk Coast SPA
4. Gibraltar Point SPA

An essential working principle for effective management is that nature conservation occurs in parallel with human activities, to ensure that maritime livelihoods and the regions rich cultural heritage are sustained as part of the marine environment. Therefore, WNNMP works in close collaboration with regulators, local communities, sea-users, businesses and conservation groups<sup>7</sup>.

This partnership is made up of a number of bodies including the following management groups:

Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, Norfolk County Council, Boston Borough Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Norfolk District Council, South Holland District Council, Lincolnshire County Council and Fenland District Council. Other Agencies and organisations are Environment Agency, Natural England, Marine Management Organisation, Water Management Alliance, King's Lynn Conservancy Board, Eastern IFCA, Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board, Wetlands & Deepings, Port of Boston, Wells Harbour Commissioner and Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

Community Advisory Groups: Boston, King's Lynn and North Norfolk

Conservation Groups: Norfolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB, National Trust, Holkham, Norfolk Coast Partnership and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

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<sup>7</sup> [About » The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership \(wnnmp.co.uk\)](http://www.wnnmp.co.uk)

## **Economy**

### **New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership<sup>8</sup>**

The New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk brings together public and private sector partners to focus on actions needed to help secure sustainable development economically and socially. The LEP identify priorities which include infrastructure improvements such as transport and housing, growing jobs, removing barriers to growth, improving skills and raising the regions profile and reputation.

Even though the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk are not on the board of members for the New Anglia LEP we feel cooperation and engagement at the appropriate time is important, so the Borough is involved with the spatial growth being advised. The New Anglia LEP plays a role in our cooperation with cross boundary members due to the fact that while as an authority we sit geographically within Norfolk, we also look towards the Cambridge region as a result of our transport connections. Therefore, it is appropriate to engage at the appropriate time with plans going on so the Borough is best served at the regional level.

## **Water**

### **Water Resources East**

Water Resources East (WRE) was formed in 2014 by Anglian Water, who were to learn from international best practice on how to develop a more collaborative approach to water resource management planning in a region under significant pressure due to population growth and economic ambition, the need for enhanced environmental protection and significant climate change impacts.

Eastern England is characterised by its diversity of water use, including very significant non-public water supply users, particularly irrigated agriculture, food production and energy, and WRE's focus since 2014 has been on multi-sector water resource planning.

WRE's vision is for Eastern England to be an international exemplar for collaborative integrated water resource management.

WRE's overarching strategy for the region is to:

- Work with all water users in Eastern England to identify ways in which they can become as water efficient as they can be.
- Promote the need for additional storage of water within the landscape, increasing resilience for all water users and seeking to identify multi-sector opportunities to link water scarcity with flood risk management solutions.
- Transfer water from areas of surplus to areas of deficit, seeking to increase connectivity using both open water channels as well as pipelines.
- Link land and water management more effectively, seeking to increase resilience and enhance the natural systems and resources on which all abstractors depend.

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<sup>8</sup> [Home - New Anglia LEP](#)

- Actively explore other potential sources of water for our region, for example desalination and water re-use.
- Contribute to low carbon strategies and plans, helping the region to meet a net zero ambition.

### **County level**

At a county level the Council are involved in a range of specific policy/officer groups to ensure a strategic overview, a consistent approach and to share knowledge and information.

These include:

- Norfolk Coast Partnership
- Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (NSPF)
- Norfolk Strategic Planning Officers Group (NSPG)
- Local Plan Liaison meeting
- Norfolk Rail Group

### **Norfolk Coast Partnership<sup>9</sup> (AONB)**

The Norfolk Coast Partnership (NCP) was originally set up in December 1991 to focus on the recreational pressures arising in the area from increasing numbers of visitors, which were perceived as having a damaging effect on the area's natural beauty. Over the years the focus has broadened, whilst still considering recreational pressure as a high priority, to focus on sustainable management of the AONB in a way which meets the Norfolk Coast's environmental, social and economic needs whilst conserving and enhancing its natural beauty.

The Norfolk Coast Partnership is funded by Defra, Norfolk County Council, Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, North Norfolk District Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council. The partnership brings together a variety of stakeholders who have a role in managing the AONB area and meeting around 2-4 times annually to review and consider particular issues. It consists of a partnership forum, core management group, community representatives and the staff.

- The partnership forum is made up of representatives from all the Partners including those on the Core Management Group and five community representatives elected by parishes in the area<sup>10</sup>
- The core management group is made up of representatives from the relevant local authorities – including the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Norfolk County Council, North Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority and local community representatives

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<sup>9</sup> [Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - Norfolk Coast Partnership \(norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk\)](http://norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk)

<sup>10</sup> [Partnership Forum - Norfolk Coast Partnership \(norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk\)](http://norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk)

## Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework<sup>11</sup>

Norfolk's local planning authorities (including Norfolk County Council) have a long track record of working together to achieve shared objectives. In early 2015 through working together via the strategic planning member forum, agreement was made to formally cooperate on a range of strategic cross-boundary planning issues through the preparation of the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework.

The aim of producing the framework is to:

1. Agree shared objectives and strategic priorities to improve outcomes for Norfolk and inform the preparation of future Local Plans
2. Demonstrate compliance with the duty to co-operate and consistency with the National Planning Policy Framework (while recognising the latter is due to be revised shortly)
3. Find efficiencies in the planning system through working towards the establishment of a shared evidence base
4. Influence subsequent high-level plans (such as the Strategic Economic Plan)
5. and maximise the opportunities to secure external funding to deliver against agreed objectives

Specifically, senior officers and members from throughout the county attend the Duty to Cooperate forum (the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum). The purpose of the NSPF is to provide a structure for tackling strategic planning issues across the county and beyond, which have a strategic impact across local authority boundaries; it is for Members/ Officers to discuss issues such as housing, economic growth, infrastructure and the environment with a list of the groups below:

- Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum
- NSPF Planning Group (Officers)
- Green Infrastructure and RAMS Planning Group
- Housing Delivery Group
- NSPF Climate Change Group
- Planning in Health Protocol
- Design Planning Group
- Economic Group
- Infrastructure Group
- Water group
- Older persons and accommodation support group
- 5G Group
- Norfolk/Suffolk Cross border meeting (quarterly meetings ongoing to discuss cross boundary issues)

The member groups discuss the implications of these issues for plan-making and works to achieve a common understanding or approach to that issue. The Forum oversees the production of the NSPF document (a non-statutory co-ordinating strategy) on behalf of all the local planning authorities in Norfolk<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/strategic-member-forum/draft-norfolk-strategic-framework.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/norfolk-strategic-planning-member-forum>

The NSPF document has been updated and was endorsed in October 2019 to meet the new requirements set out in the revised NPPF (2019) whereby local authorities should produce, maintain and update one or more statements of common ground as set out in paragraph 27. The summary of formal agreements within the statement of common ground sets out 23 agreements the local planning authorities and members have recognised and agreed. The agreements (full detail in footnote 5), show our duty to work closely on the preparation of our local development plans with other members to recognise the importance of the cross-boundary issues in appropriate policies. These agreements include:

- Reducing Norfolk's greenhouse gas emissions as well as the impact from, exposure to, and effects of climate change
- Improve the quality of life, economic potential for Norfolk and its population
- Incorporating a Green Infrastructure Strategy which reflects the importance of environmental assets including Norfolk AONB and the Brecks
- Addressing Local Housing Needs
- Emerging Local Plans (including our Local Plan Review) will include appropriate policies and proposals to recognise the importance of the above cross boundary issues and interventions
- Identifying the seriousness of water stress in relevant planning policies in the Local Plan and endorsing the higher water efficiency standard 110lites/per person/per day for residential development
- Engaging with telecommunications industry to produce shared objectives for extending 4G coverage in Norfolk taking into account material planning considerations
- Agree to endorse the updated Planning in Health Protocol document in Norfolk and undertake its commitments
- Work closely with the County Council and school providers and support the implementation of the County Council's Planning Obligations Standards as a means of justifying any S106 payments/CIL funds to mitigate impact of housing growth

In addition to the Forum outlined above there is also a Norfolk Strategic Planning Group. This is comprised of senior officers from the County and Districts. In summary it discusses items of interest for forward planning; initiates joint working.

- Norfolk Strategic Planning Officers Group
- Local Plan Liaison meeting

### **Norfolk Rail Group**

The Norfolk Rail Group acts as a special interest group to support the strategic case for improvements to rail for the benefit of the county.

The Group seeks to achieve its objective by:

- Supporting Norfolk County Council, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CA
- Developing clear evidence-based advice and business cases to support the strategic case or as requested by Norfolk County Council or LEPs
- Co-ordinating support of local interests to assist in providing evidence or other help to support advocacy



- Forming strategic alliances along rail corridors, including with other LEPs, local authorities, the rail industry, communities and other advocacy groups.

Membership of the Group comprises:

- Elected Members nominated by Norfolk County Council (Chaired by a County Councillor)
- One elected Member nominated by each District Council within Norfolk
- One elected Member nominated by East Suffolk Council
- One elected Member nominated by East Cambridgeshire District Council
- One elected Member nominated by the Broads Authority
- One elected Member from the board of Community Rail Norfolk
- One Officer from each local authority to support the elected Members.

Non-voting participants from the following organisations are invited to attend each meeting:

- Network Rail
- Train operating companies running the Greater Anglia franchise, the King's Lynn to London King's cross route and the Liverpool to Norwich route
- A representative from each of the Local Enterprise Partnerships in Norfolk (New Anglia, and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough)
- A representative from an organisation representing people with disabilities
- Rail interest groups including Passenger Focus, Railfuture, Fen Line Users' Association, Norwich to Peterborough Rail Users' Group.

Representatives from other organisations and sectors (including MPs, private rail operators, freight interests and other local authorities) are invited to participate in discussions where relevant items are included on the agenda.

A report from the Norfolk Rail Group is taken to the relevant Norfolk County Council Committee or Sub Committee for consideration if a decision is required.

The Norfolk Rail Group normally meet at least twice each year (spring and autumn).

## **Green Infrastructure and Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy**

In 2019 Place Services were commissioned to produce two strategies:

1. Countywide Green Infrastructure Strategy
2. Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy

Within the NSPF a planning group, including Natural England, adjoining Norfolk Planning Authorities etc, was formed to work together in creating one document which will explore and bring together two pieces of work which are closely interrelated and covers:

- a. the accessibility to, and potential opportunities for green infrastructure but also;
- b. making proposals for managing visitor impacts from the populations in new Norfolk housing development which is proposed in Local Plans on Natura 2000 designated sites. (Which is a legal requirement in the Habitats Regulations Assessment).

The work involved included a review of the opportunity areas for the provision of new or enhanced green infrastructure in the country to utilise/take pressure off the hot spots (particularly designated sites, coast, commons etc). Understanding the current management

measures for visitors to Natura 2000 sites and evidence of recreational disturbance and the mitigation necessary to avoid significant adverse effects from residential development.

## **Housing Delivery**

The Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework was commissioned by the Norfolk Planning Authorities to work together on the future challenges which we will jointly face, including the targets for housing delivery. A study was commissioned by the Norfolk Local Planning Authorities in response to the Housing White Paper “fixing our broken housing market” (Feb 2017) which seeks more rapid delivery of housing across the UK<sup>13</sup>. This was done in order to gain further understanding of the time it takes for strategic sites, identified for development through the local plan process, to come forward for housing delivery and the reasons why this has sometimes varied from the timetable originally envisaged.

## **4. Strategic planning priorities**

The table below lists the strategic issues taken from the Local Plan Review. It details where our ‘strategic issues’ have more significant implications for another authority/ organisation, and where the Council are working alongside others to take a comprehensive approach to policy making and development. The strategic priorities (or a ‘issues’ needing the attention of strategic working across boundaries) are listed below (however not necessarily in order of strategic importance):

- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
- Climate Change
- Housing distribution- Affordable Housing
- Gypsies and Travellers & Travelling Show people - Accommodation Needs
- Strategic Transport
- Green Infrastructure and Recreational Mitigation Strategy
- Protection of SPA Species- Stone Curlews
- Potential for adverse impacts on Natura 2000 Sites (SPAs, SAC’s and Ramsar Sites) & Habitat Regulations Assessment
- Landscape Protection- Norfolk Coast Project (AONB)
- European Marine Sites (The Wash EMS)
- Coastal Management
- Historic Environment (Heritage Action Zone)
- Wisbech Fringe
- Neighbourhood Plans
- Implementation
- Wider economic growth
- Funding for infrastructure
- Health (protocol) issues

Often our work with authorities/bodies has been around a specific point of concern, a local issue or a particular piece of land or development proposal rather than of a strategic nature. Therefore, many issues are dealt with through the sustainability appraisal process, and the consideration of policy options and decision-making.

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<sup>13</sup> WSP (2018). Norfolk Strategic Framework Strategic Housing Delivery Study Norfolk Local Authorities. Source: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/strategic-member-forum/norfolk-strategic-framework-strategic-housing-delivery-study.pdf>

- Appendix 1 provides the detail on the cooperative working around these issues. It includes the evidence, partners involved, actions and outcomes, as well as how the cooperation will be continued.
- Appendix 2 shows a diagram of the Council's relationship with neighbouring authorities around strategic issues for the borough and the strategic planning area

5. Summary table of strategic working – Further detail and weblinks etc should be included in the template in Appendix 1

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
Sustainable Spatial Strategy for West Norfolk	This is a review of the current Local Plan (Core Strategy (2011) and Sites Allocations and Development Management Policies (2016)) which is still relevant for West Norfolk, and it is influenced by the NPPF and the issues below.			
Flood Risk - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; Flood & Water Management	<p>Norfolk County Council (NCC) as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), local planning authorities, Regional Flood &amp; Coastal Committees (RFCC), Water related bodies including Environment Agency (EA), Anglian Water Services (AW), Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs).</p> <p>Steering Groups for specific flood &amp; water management issues.</p>	<p>Member and officer working groups.</p> <p>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA): Level 1 and Level 2.</p> <p>King's Lynn &amp; West Norfolk (KLWN) Settlements Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP).</p>	<p>King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan.</p> <p>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Levels 1 &amp; 2.</p>	<p>The KLWN Inter Agency Flood &amp; Water Management Group is ongoing.</p> <p>Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance set up by NCC January 2021.</p>

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
Climate Change	Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Members and Climate Change Subgroup: Norfolk County Council Breckland District Council Broads Authority Broadland District Council Great Yarmouth Borough Council North Norfolk District Council Norwich City Council Environment Agency New Anglia LEP	Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework- Climate Change Subgroup- What Local Plans can do to address climate change (2020)	Creation of a NSPF Subgroup for climate change to address specific issues which cross relate among the Norfolk LPAs which can be tackled in Local Plans currently and for future reference	Ongoing meetings as a steering group on climate change and the creation of a climate change paper
Renewable Energy	There are no strategic issues identified.			
Housing Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distribution</li><li>• Type, Size, Tenure</li><li>• Affordable Housing</li></ul>	Norfolk County Council and all of the Local Planning Authorities in Norfolk through the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework. Fenland District Council Planning Agents/ Developers Letting Agents / Landlords Registered Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Need Assessment (HNA) (2020) replaces Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update 2014</li> <li>• Local Plan review Viability Study (2020)</li> <li>• Older Person &amp; Specialist Care Need Study (2020)</li> <li>• Housing &amp; Economic Land Availability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Local Housing Need (LHN) to work with</li> <li>• Viability Assessment</li> <li>• Local Plan review policies on the strategic direction of growth, Settlement Hierarchy, affordable housing, accessible and adaptable homes, older people and</li> </ul>	Ongoing monitoring of Housing supply through housing trajectory and 5-year housing land supply position. Housing Delivery through the Housing Delivery Test and associated Action Plan. Authority Monitoring Report etc.

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
	<p>Housing Support Providers Homes England through the Accelerated Construction Programme Historic England through the Heritage Action Zone</p>	<p>Assessment (HELAA) (2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing &amp; Economic Land Availability Assessment Update (HELAA) (2020)</li> <li>• Housing Trajectory 2019/20- and 5-Year Housing Land Supply Position</li> <li>• Housing Delivery Test and associated Action Plan</li> <li>• Affordable Strategies &amp; Policies</li> <li>• NPPF &amp; PPG regarding the standard method for calculating Local Housing Need (LHN) and latest relevant ONS data</li> <li>• Custom and Self-Build Action Plan</li> <li>• Custom and Self-Build Demand Assessment Framework (2018)</li> <li>• Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2019)</li> </ul>	<p>specialist care, and housing allocations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custom and Self-Build Action Plan</li> <li>• Housing Delivery Test Action Plan</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norfolk County Council</li> <li>• Norfolk Local Planning Authorities</li> <li>• Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework</li> <li>• Fenland District Council</li> <li>• Homes England</li> <li>• Historic England</li> </ul>

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
Gypsy & Travellers & Travelling Show people	Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Cambridgeshire local planning authorities	Gypsy & Travellers' Needs Assessment (2016)	Justification for policy within the Local Plan review which outlines the approach for existing site extension/intensification and for windfall development to come forward in appropriate locations	Update of the GTNA (2016) underway with Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), Cambridgeshire local planning authorities
The Economy - The Economy Tourism, Leisure and Town Centre Uses	There are no strategic issues identified. – LEP + CC biggest issues internal to W.Norfolk.			
Transport - Strategic Issues	NCC, CCC, neighbouring local authorities. Highways England.  KLTS steering group.  West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group (WNT & ISG).  King's Lynn Local Cycling & Walking Improvement Plan	King's Lynn Transport Strategy & Implementation Plan (KLTS)  King's Lynn LCWIP  Norfolk's Local Transport Plan (LTP)  Rail Prospectus for East Anglia/Norfolk Rail Prospectus	Local Plan Policy LP13  A47 Thorney to Wisbech Walton Highway Initial Options Assessment.  2017 CPCA commissioned study into dualling options A47 Peterborough to West Walton – SOBC and Options Appraisal Report (OAR).  Cambridgeshire, Guyhirn Junction Improvement, commencing 2021. Creation of	KLTS implementation plan ongoing.  WNTISG ongoing.  LCWIP development ongoing.  A47 Alliance Steering Group is ongoing.  Norfolk Rail Group is ongoing.

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
	<p>(LCWIP) Steering Group</p> <p>LTP groups led by NCC.</p> <p>East Anglia Rail Prospectus.</p> <p>Norfolk Rail Group.</p> <p>A47 Alliance &amp; A47 Alliance Steering Group.</p> <p>Ely Area Task Force, Communications Group &amp; Programme Board.</p> <p>Liaison meetings with Fen Line rail operators/stakeholders.</p> <p>Wisbech Access Strategy Steering Group.</p>	<p>A47 Studies / Strategies</p> <p>Wisbech Area Transport Studies / Strategies</p>	<p>a larger junction linking the A47 and A141.</p>	<p>Ely Area Task Force, Comms. Group &amp; Programme Board are ongoing.</p> <p>Liaison meetings with Fen Line rail operators/stakeholders ongoing.</p> <p>Wisbech Access Strategy Steering Group is ongoing.</p>
<p>Environmental Assets</p> <p>a) Green Infrastructure</p>	<p>Steering Group includes - Norfolk County Council (NCC), Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum, local authorities, Natural England, Norfolk</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Study for Norfolk which is being implemented with the NSPF and adjoining local authorities as the Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy</p>	<p>Local Plan Review Policies- new Norfolk Coast AONB LP16 which has been incorporated after Reg.18 consultation</p> <p>Environmental Section Policies LP15- LP27 which all fall</p>	<p>Taken forward through individual projects e.g. Gaywood Valley SURF Project; Wissey Living Landscape project; Ouse</p>



Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
b) GI/RAMS – Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation	Wildlife Trust, Norfolk Coast Partnership, Environment Agency (EA) and Anglian Water Services (AW).	(2020/21) produced as part of the NSPF.  GI Study and research on existing GI strategies and projects around the Borough.	relevant to environmental assets.  Policy E1.13 King's Lynn GI - GI included within particular allocations e.g. West Winch Growth Area (E2.1)	Washes Landscape Partnership; Fens Biosphere
Water Resources	Water Resources East  Fens Water Partnership	WRE is developing a Norfolk Sustainable Water Management Plan with Norfolk County Council  The Fens Water Partnership is a collaborative working group with experience and knowledge from various sectors of the local community. The Partnership wishes to work together to aid the development of the Fens Reservoir with the aims of creating a sustainable water resource for the area, whilst also enhancing the environment and local communities	Norfolk Sustainable Water Management Plan  Fens Reservoir Project	
Biodiversity and Geodiversity – Protection of Breckland SPA species – Stone Curlews	NCC, SCC, West Suffolk Council, Breckland District Council, Natural England, Wildlife Trusts, RSPB, Forestry Commission, NFU, CLA	Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (2021) produced as part of the NSPF	Common policy approaches in relevant local plans and planning applications/ development proposals. Recognition of the Breckland SPA within development proposals is	Ongoing discussion within NSPF/ Steering groups on monitoring issues.  Ongoing discussions with West Suffolk Council,

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
	Various landowners	<p>In February 2019 Natural England (“NE”) published updated conservation objectives for the Breckland SPA for the purposes of meeting the requirements of the Habitats Directive (and the domestic Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/1012)).</p> <p>In March 2019 NE published its Supplementary Advice for the SPA. The Supplementary Advice sets out guidance on various attributes of the SPA and identifies targets for each attribute that should be achieved as far as possible if the attribute is to be safeguarded in order to achieve the conservation objectives for the SPA.</p> <p>NE has produced (2019) a methodology as a planning tool for calculating the partial displacement effect in relation to proposals for new residential development, which takes into</p>	addressed in strategic policy LP19 Environmental Assets- Green Infrastructure, Landscape Character, Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Norfolk County Council, Breckland Council, Suffolk County Council and Natural England about developing a strategic approach to Stone Curlews in the SPA.

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
		<p>account records of existing breeding/nesting activity, the scale of the residential development, the amount of woodland (which is not suitable for nesting by stone curlew), and the proximity of major roads and existing housing.</p>		
<p>Potential for adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites</p> <p>Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)</p>	<p>NCC, Norfolk Local Planning Authorities  Natural England  Norfolk Duty to Cooperate Member Forum  Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum  Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership  Norfolk Coast AONB Partnership  HRA Monitoring and Mitigation and GI Coordination Panel</p>	<p>Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) (2021)</p> <p>GI Strategy Stage 1 (2009) and Stage 2 (2010)</p> <p>Norfolk Visitor Pressure Study commissioned by Footprint Ecology (2017)</p> <p>Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (2021) produced as part of the NSPF</p>	<p>Local Plan Review - tailored policies for the housing allocations which were found sound in the SADMP 2016 and are being brought forward in the LPR.</p> <p>Local Plan Policies which are relevant from the outcome of monitoring information and working with local authorities on cross boundary issues LP19 Environmental Assets- Green Infrastructure, Landscape Character, Biodiversity and Geodiversity, LP27 - Habitats Regulation Assessment addresses strategic issue</p>	<p>Monitoring mechanisms in place with a HRA and GI Panel.</p> <p>Research to provide a robust framework to guide green infrastructure and inform future plans in housing allocations and provision of green infrastructure.</p>

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
The Wash European Marine Site	The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership (WNNMP) represents 21 Relevant Authorities and is the organisation that manages the delivery of statutory duties to The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Protected Area network.	Various evidence sources from the WNNMP itself and partner organisations.	Co-ordination and collaboration to ensure that the conservation objectives are maintained.	There is a core Management Group and a wider stakeholder group which considers issues and shares good practice.
Landscape Protection – Norfolk Coast Project (NCP) (AONB)	Norfolk Coast Partnership, Core Management Group- North Norfolk District Council, NCC, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Broads Authority, DEFRA, Natural England, Marine Management Organisation	AONB Management Plan (2014-2019). There is currently a new AONB Management Plan out for consultation. Evidence gathered for the Management Plan acts as a check to our new policy approach in the Local Plan Review. Current evidence collected includes a study of visitors to sensitive sites as a contribution to the recreational pressures issue dealt with in the Local Plan Review	A more co-ordinated approach to the role of the AONB in addressing social, economic as well as environmental – landscape issues across the designated area. After consultation responses and ongoing discussions with the Norfolk Coast Partnership we have implemented the new Norfolk Coast AONB Policy to address strategic issues addressed for the area.	The Borough Council is a member of the Core Management Group for the Project, contributing financially to the running of the Project.
Coastal Areas	All coastal local authorities from Lincs. to Essex, Natural England (NE), led by	The Wash Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) (2010); The Wash East Coastal Management Strategy	Policies within the Local Plan Review - LP15 Coastal Areas, LP16 Norfolk Coast AONB Policy, LP17 Coastal Change	Structures to oversee WECMS funding and policy issues are ongoing.  SMP monitoring through East Anglian Coastal

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
	<p>Environment Agency (EA) meet as the East Anglian Coastal Group (EACG).</p> <p>WECMS Stakeholder Forum &amp; Funding Group.</p> <p>LGA Coastal Special Interest Group (SIG) (all coastal local authorities in England).</p> <p>Anglian Coastal Monitoring Group (ACMG) (all coastal local authorities from Lincs. to Essex + EA).</p> <p>SMP Groups (Wash &amp; NN SMP)</p> <p>Marine Management Organisation</p>	<p>(WECMS) (2015); Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan (2020); The North Norfolk SMP (2011).</p> <p>East Offshore and Inshore Marine Plans (2014)</p> <p>Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground Coastal Zone Planning (2018)</p> <p>SFRA Level 1 (2018) and Level 2 (2019)</p>	<p>Management Area (Hunstanton to Dersingham) Policy, LP24 Sites in Areas of Flood Risk Policy</p>	<p>Group (EACG) &amp; Anglian Coastal Monitoring Group (ACMG).</p> <p>New SMP forums being established following SMP review 2020</p>
Community and Culture	There are no strategic issues identified.			

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
Historic Environment Heritage Action Zones (HAZ)	Historic England Conservation/Regeneration Officers	2 Heritage Action Zones in King's Lynn designated on Historic England Website (and KL Town Centre HAZ)	Recognise the importance of the designated HAZ (2017) within King's Lynn. Incorporated this information within the SA Scoping report update and influence in LP36 Policy	Working with LPA colleagues and Historic England on the importance and action taking place within HAZ in King's Lynn and other issues which may arise within the LPR
Wisbech Fringe	Fenland District Council Norfolk County Council Cambridgeshire County Council Cams. & Peterborough Combined Authority Highways England	Fenland District Council (FDC) - Fenland Local Plan adopted May 2014. East Wisbech Broad Concept Plan (2018) Wisbech Access Strategy (2018)	Adoption of FDC Local Plan – policy LP7 Urban Extensions and LP8 Wisbech. KLWN Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Document – policy F3.1 Wisbech Fringe. Completion of Wisbech Access Strategy to inform the allocation and facilitate the delivery of sites	Monitoring of policies within each Local Plan. Continued consultation on policy issues/applications between authorities. Wisbech Access Strategy Steering Group ongoing meetings.
Urban Areas	There are no further strategic issues identified.			

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
Rural Areas	There are no further strategic issues identified.			
Neighbourhood Plans	NCC, Local Planning Authorities, NSPF, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Plan Working Groups, Public	NSPF Meeting Papers NP Updates within the County Currently the Borough Council have 6 adopted NP (one in the process of its review) and many awaiting their referendum.	Due to the overarching interest of neighbourhood plans in these settlements we allow the flexibility of allocations to be in the control of these settlements except for the SADMP 2016 Allocations which are being carried over into the Local Plan Review.	Ongoing cooperation through meetings, email/phone with all NP working groups/parish councils to keep on track of progress
Implementation	Norfolk Strategic Services Coordinating Group  Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum  Norfolk Infrastructure Plan Steering Group  West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group	CIL Viability Study (Nov. 2013)  Norfolk County Council Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP)	Local Plan Review Policies- LP05 Implementation Policy	Norfolk Strategic Services Coordinating Group,  Norfolk Strategic Planning Group and WNP Strategy Group are ongoing.  Regular/ongoing discussions with service/infrastructure providers.  Consultation on CIL Viability/Draft Infrastructure

Strategic issues from the Local Plan Review	Partners, Management and working arrangements	Evidence Base	Outcome	Ongoing cooperation
	<p>Local Strategic Partnership – West Norfolk Partnership Strategy Group</p> <p>Specific meetings with service/infrastructure providers e.g. education, health, police, fire and letters/questionnaires requesting information/service plans/capital programmes, etc.</p> <p>CIL Viability Study - developers/agents briefings. CIL Steering Panel</p>			<p>Requirements List (Regulation123 List) ongoing.</p>



Appendices		Page No.
Appendix 1	<b>Strategic Planning Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Housing distribution- Affordable Housing</li> <li>• Gypsies and Travellers &amp; Travelling Show people Accommodation Needs</li> <li>• Strategic Transport</li> <li>• Green Infrastructure and GI/RAMS</li> <li>• Protection of SPA Species- Stone Curlews</li> <li>• Potential for adverse impacts on Natura 2000 Sites (SPAs, SAC's and Ramsar Sites) &amp; Habitat Regulations Assessment</li> <li>• Landscape Protection- Norfolk Coast Project (AONB)</li> <li>• Coastal Management</li> <li>• Heritage Action Zone</li> <li>• Wisbech Fringe</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Plans</li> <li>• Implementation</li> </ul>	32
Appendix 2	<b>Diagram: Strategic Issues within and outside of the Strategic Planning Area of King's Lynn &amp; West Norfolk</b>	61

## Appendix 1: Strategic Planning Issues

### Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

#### 1. Strategic Planning issue

**Strategic Flood Risk Assessment** - taking account of Strategic Flood Risk. Much of the Borough is low-lying and affected by either tidal or fluvial flood risk. It is important to take account of this in planning future land allocations. River catchments and coastal zones extend over wide areas and don't respect local authority boundaries. Surface water flooding is also a risk that must be considered in our planning strategy.

#### 2. Evidence base

- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 and Level 2
- King's Lynn & West Norfolk (KLWN) Settlements Surface Water Management Plan (2012) (SWMP) & King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ordinary Water Courses Study (2015)
- Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground Coastal Zone Planning (2018)

#### 3. Strategic Partners

Environment Agency (EA); Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs), Anglian Water Services (AWS), Norfolk County Council (NCC) as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Middle Level Commissioners, Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service, local authorities, Regional Flood & Coastal Committees (RFCC)

EA, IDBs, AWS, NCC as LLFA were on the SFRA & SWMP steering groups.

The SFRA was jointly commissioned with other Norfolk local authorities and overseen through a SFRA Steering Group comprising NCC, EA, IDBs, district and Borough Councils, AWS.

Action: Understand strategic flood risk issues within the Borough through the preparation of a SFRA. Partners: as above in 3.

Outcome: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 & Level 2

Date: 2018 & 2019

Action: Understand the risk of surface water flooding through the preparation of a SWMP

Partners: as above in 3.

Outcome: KL & West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan & King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ordinary Water Courses Study

Date: 2012 & 2015

Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground Coastal Zone Planning  
Partners: EA, BCKLWN, NNDC, GYBC, Broads Authority, Waveney and Suffolk Coastal (now combined as East Suffolk Council)

Action: agree an approach to coastal zone planning across the whole of the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts.

Outcome: Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground Coastal Zone Planning

Date: 2018

## **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan & King's Lynn and West Norfolk Ordinary Water Courses Study.

NCC worked with the Borough Council, the EA, AWS, IDBs and consultants Capita Symonds to produce a SWMP for King's Lynn and other selected settlements in West Norfolk.

The other settlements included in the SWMP are: Burnham Market, Dersingham, Downham Market, East and West Rudham, Feltwell, Gayton, Heacham, Hunstanton, North and South Creak, Shouldham, Southery, Snettisham, Terrington St. Clement and Wimbotsham.

The SWMP analysed the predicted consequences of surface water flooding to property, businesses and infrastructure and those areas identified to be at more significant risk were selected as Local Flood Risk Zones.

The SWMP & SFRA influenced Policy LP24 Sites in Areas of Flood Risk. All allocations had regard to the SFRA & SWMP. The overall settlement strategy in the Core Strategy was influenced by the SFRA.

Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities Statement of Common Ground Coastal Zone Planning

## **6. Ongoing cooperation**

There is an ongoing KLWN Inter Agency F&WM Group.

## Climate Change

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

**Climate Change** - This topic is an extremely important issue which under international and national obligation local plans and the statutory planning system should abide by. With rising CO2 emissions and the high emissions present within King's Lynn and West Norfolk, climate change has to be addressed by our local planning authority and neighbouring authorities to reduce Norfolk's negative climatic impact. It is important to work with a range of strategic partners and our adjoining Norfolk local authorities on a positive approach to adapting, mitigating and sequestering greenhouse gases within new development and guiding positive, green and sustainable change for our present and future population.

### 2. Evidence Base

- Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework- Climate Change Subgroup- What Local Plans can do to address climate change (2020)

### 3. Strategic Partners

Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Members and Climate Change Subgroup:  
Norfolk County Council  
Breckland District Council  
Broadland District Council  
Broads Authority  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
North Norfolk District Council  
Norwich City Council  
South Norfolk District Council  
Environment Agency  
New Anglia LEP

### 4. Outcomes from strategic working

In 2019 a climate change subgroup was created by the NSPF to address the issue of climate change, this involved regular meetings to discuss and investigate what local plans can do in relation to climate change within new and current development. A steering group paper is being finalised which provides a table of selected topics of cross related issues for King's Lynn & West Norfolk, and all the Norfolk LPAS on the group. A cross cutting recommendation from the subgroup is the further work and improvement of working relations with building regulation and water companies to work towards addressing climate change where standards and aims contradict or overlap.

#### **The different issues addressed are:**

- Tackling the cause of climate change (mitigation), design of new build (water and energy), energy production, location of development, movement, parking standards, food production, peat soils, broadband and telecommunications, light pollution, emissions, waste, construction methods, build materials, embodied energy in existing

buildings, local energy area plans, air pollution, addressing existing dwellings, strong SA and LP objectives

- Tackling the impacts of climate change (adaptation)- flood risk, coastal erosion, biodiversity, changes in weather patterns, seas and water bodies, health, design, GI and open space
- Sequestering greenhouse gases- Woodlands, trees and hedges, habitat creation, peat soils (protecting, management and creation of carbon sinks), carbon offsetting
- Further areas to explore

#### 5. Ongoing Cooperation

Ongoing discussions through the NSPF and a monitoring review every two years to keep up to date on issues

## Housing including distribution and affordable Housing

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

The standard methodology as outline in the NPPF and associated guidance provides a Local Housing Need (LHN). This is the starting point and if possible subject to constraint the Borough Council needs to ensure that the LHN is met through the Local Plan review. The NPPF and other National Policies state that the needs of certain groups of society need to be catered for to create mixed, balanced and sustainable communities. To achieve this through the Local Plan review ongoing work with strategic partners is required, this had led to the formulation of an appropriate evidence base and the outcome of polices within the Local Plan review.

### 2. Evidence base

Housing Need Study (HNA) 2020  
Local Plan Review Viability Study (2020)  
Older Person & Specialist Care Need Study (2020)  
Housing & Economic Needs Availability Assessment (HELAA) (2019)  
Housing & Economic Needs Availability Assessment Update (HELAA) (2020)  
Housing Trajectory 2019/20- and 5-Year Housing Land Supply Position (2020)  
Housing Delivery Test Action Plan 2018 (2019)  
Housing Delivery Test Action Plan Update 2019 (2020)  
Gypsy & Traveller's Needs Assessment (2016)  
Emerging Gypsy & Traveller's Needs Assessment (2020/21)  
Custom & Self-Build Action Plan (2019)  
Custom and Self-Build Demand Assessment Framework (2018)  
Affordable Housing Strategy & Policy  
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2019)  
NPPF & PPG regarding the standard method for calculating Local Housing Need (LHN) and latest relevant ONS data  
Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework and emerging updates

### 3. Strategic Partners

Norfolk County Council  
All the Local Planning Authorities in Norfolk  
Planning Agents  
Developers  
House Builders  
Planning Consultants  
Estate Agents & Letting Agents  
Registered Providers  
Housing Support Providers  
Landlords

Homes England  
Historic England

#### **4. Actions**

- Norfolk Strategic Planning Policy Framework

#### **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

- Policies within the Local Plan review on the strategic direction of growth, housing distribution, settlement hierarchy, affordable housing approach, adaptable and accessible homes, housing allocations and a framework for windfall development to come forward which ensure the Borough Council is able to meet its Local Housing Need (LHN) with flexibility baked in.
- A set of agreements from the Norfolk Strategic Planning Policy Framework which are included within the Local Plan.
- Joint housing allocation in Wisbech Fringe Area which is within the Borough Council's and Fenland District Council's Local Plans.
- King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone.
- Accelerated Construction Programme Funding from Homes England, ensure a number of sites are delivered faster.

#### **6. Ongoing cooperation**

## **Gypsies and travellers & travelling show people – Accommodation needs**

### **1. Strategic Planning issue**

#### **Gypsies and travellers – Accommodation needs**

- The area of West Norfolk and immediate neighbours in Cambridgeshire display a high level of demand for sites for gypsies and travellers.
- Local authorities in the Cambridgeshire area together with West Norfolk commissioned CCC to prepare a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA).
- This joint work sought to deal comprehensively with needs, including potential cross border tensions.

### **2. Evidence base**

- Planning Policy for Travellers Sites (PPTS 2015)
- Gypsy & Traveller's Needs Assessment (2016)
- Emerging Gypsy & Traveller's Needs Assessment (2020/2021)

### **3. Strategic Partners**

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough combined authority
- All districts in the above, including Fenland District Council

### **4. Actions**

- Joint commissioning of evidence through the GTANA.
- Joint testing of technical evidence base.
- Agreement to the findings of the study and appropriate actions through plan preparation.

### **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

- Role of the geography of West Norfolk is recognised as part of the wider sub region
- Justification for strategy/policy direction taken in terms existing site intensification/ expansion and a framework for windfall sites to come forward in appropriate locations

### **6. Ongoing cooperation**

- Recent (2019/20) refresh of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment in progress.



## Strategic Transport

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

**Strategic Transport** - to plan for strategic transport improvements to accompany planned growth.

### 2. Evidence base

King's Lynn Transport Strategy & Implementation Plan (KLTS);  
Norfolk's Local Transport Plan (LTP);  
Once in a Generation – A Rail Prospectus for East Anglia;  
Norfolk Rail Prospectus (NCC);  
Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC)/Skanska A47 Thorney to Wisbech  
Walton Highway Initial Options Assessment;  
Wisbech Access Strategy (CCC);

### 3. Strategic Partners

KLTS steering group.

West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group, consisting of Elected Members from both Councils, to oversee and advise on these matters within the Borough area.

LTP groups led by NCC.

Norfolk Rail Group – led by NCC, with other LAs (officers and Members), Network Rail, rail operators, user groups.

Ely Area Task Force, Communications Group & Programme Board

A47 Alliance & A47 Alliance Steering Group – led by NCC, with CCC, CPCA, Peterborough UA, HE, other LAs (officers and Members), RAC, Chamber of Commerce, LEPS, MPs.

Cambridgeshire County Council A47 Thorney to Wisbech Walton Highway Initial Options Assessment. The purpose of the study is to identify and assess potential options for improving this section of the route (taking into account previous work).

Wisbech Access Strategy 2018 – Fenland; CCC.

### 4. Actions

Action: King's Lynn Transport Strategy produced.

Partners: NCC

Outcome: Strategy & implementation plan approved.

Date: 2020

Action: Rail Prospectuses produced

Partners: as in 3 above

Outcome:

Date: E Anglia Rail Prospectus 2012 (reviewed 2014); Norfolk Rail Prospectus 2020

### **5. Outcomes from Strategic working**

KLTS – LPR transport policy/specific measures taken forward. King’s Lynn LCWIP being developed.

Rail – Ely Area Capacity Enhancement Scheme taken forward. Longer trains implemented December 2020.

A47 – RIS1 & 2

A47 Thorney to Wisbech Walton Highway Initial Options Assessment. The purpose of the study was to identify and assess potential options for improving this section of the route (taking into account previous work). 2017 CPCA commissioned study into dualling options A47 Peterborough to West Walton – SOBC and Options Appraisal Report (OAR). Cambridgeshire, Guyhirn Junction Improvement, commencing 2021. Creation of a larger junction linking the A47 and A141.

### **6. Ongoing cooperation**

KLTS implementation ongoing.

A47 Alliance Steering Group is ongoing.

Norfolk Rail Group is ongoing.

Ely Area Task Force, Communications Group & Programme Board ongoing.

## Green Infrastructure and GI RAMS

<b>1. Strategic Planning issue</b>
<b>Green Infrastructure (GI)</b> - to plan for strategic green infrastructure improvements to accompany planned growth. <b>RAMS</b> – Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy
<b>2. Evidence base</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Green Infrastructure Study for Norfolk which is being implemented with the NSPF and adjoining local authorities</li><li>• Green Infrastructure and Recreational impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) (2020/21) produced as part of the NSPF</li><li>• Research study by Footprint Ecology for partners (2016)</li><li>• (Previous) Green Infrastructure Strategy Stage 1 Report Sept 2009</li><li>• (Previous) Green Infrastructure Study Stage 2 Final Report May 2010</li><li>• (Previous) 2013 research by Mott MacDonald on existing GI projects around the Borough</li><li>• Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan for Norfolk – being prepared by Norfolk County Council</li></ul>
<b>3. Strategic Partners</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum</li><li>• Norfolk Coast Partnership</li></ul> <p>Steering Group: Borough Council of King's Lynn &amp; West Norfolk (BCKLWN), Entec consultants, Anglian Water Services Ltd, Environment Agency, Natural England, Water Management Alliance, Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Norfolk County Council.</p> <p>Wider consultation – 2 stakeholder meetings &amp; a number of meetings (Downham Market &amp; Hunstanton Town Councils; BCKLWN Open Space &amp; Planning Policy Sections; author of Wash Green Infrastructure Masterplan (Stage 1).</p> <p>Adjoining local authorities' GI Strategies considered – Thetford, Cambridge Sub Region, The Wash.</p>
<b>4. Actions</b>
Action: prepare a Green Infrastructure Strategy Partners: as above Outcome: Report & Strategy produced 2020.
<b>5. Outcomes from strategic working</b>

Core Strategy Policies CS12 Environmental Assets; CS13 Community & Culture; CS14 Infrastructure Provision

Policy DM 19 Green Infrastructure

Policy E1.13 King's Lynn GI

GI included within particular allocations e.g. West Winch Growth Area (E2.1)

LPR Policies LP19 and 23

## **6. Ongoing cooperation**

Taken forward through individual projects e.g. Gaywood Valley SURF Project; Wissey Living Landscape project; Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership.

## Protection of SPA species – Stone Curlews -

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

#### Protection of SPA species – Stone Curlews

- The Breckland Special Protection Area is a statutory designated area and needs to be afforded protection.
- The stone curlew is one of the three ground nesting birds covered by the designation.
- The area covers parts of 2 counties, and parts of 3 districts. There is also involvement from Natural England.
- The interaction of potential development with the protected interests was crystallised by a study commissioned by Breckland District Council in 2008.
- The Core Strategies / local plans for those districts all contain policies to achieve protection.
- Habitats Regulations Assessments for plans within the area have given very careful consideration to the research in considering development proposals, and policies are embedded in the decision-making processes.
- Further work has recently been commissioned by Breckland District Council to review the operation of policy. At the same time Natural England convened a working group (the Breckland Planning Forum) of local authorities and landowners to establish more focussed approaches on different types of development proposals to ease the perceived burdens resulting from the original approach.

### 2. Evidence base

- Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (2021) produced on behalf of the NSPF
- Sharp et al (2008) The effect of housing development and roads on the distribution of stone curlews in the Brecks
- HRA for the LPR

### 3. Strategic Partners

- BCKLWN
- Norfolk County Council
- Breckland District Council
- Suffolk County Council
- West Suffolk Council
- Natural England
- Wildlife Trusts
- Various landowners
- RSPB
- Forestry Commission
- National Farmers Union
- Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
- Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum

#### **4. Actions**

- Common policy approaches in relevant local plans
- Common approach to planning applications and development proposals in the area
- Formation of the Breckland Planning Forum
- Emerging drafts of more focussed approach to classes of development

#### **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

As above for 4.

Recognition of the Breckland SPA within development proposals is addressed in strategic policy LP27 HRA

#### **6. Ongoing cooperation**

There is general recognition that further consideration needs to be given to the restrictive approach in place to date. An additional report 'Clarke and Lilley (2013) – Further assessments of the relationship between building and stone curlew distribution' has been prepared and Natural England are facilitating discussions as to potential adjustments to the current approach. This may result in policy changes.

The Breckland Planning Forum continues to meet.

Ongoing discussion within NSPF/ Steering groups on monitoring issues

## **Potential for adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)**

### **1. Strategic Planning issue**

Potential for adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites) through increased recreational pressure associated with planned new housing development.

Two main areas of strategic (cross boundary) concern identified are

- Any impact on the stone curlew population associated with the Brecks Special Protection Area (in Breckland and West Suffolk Districts) from future occupants of housing developments in the extreme south-east of the Borough. (n.b. This is dealt with in a separate ‘Strategic Planning Issue’ entry.)
- Any impact on the coastal SPA and SAC beyond the Borough boundary in North Norfolk District arising from the combined future occupants of housing development allocations in the north of the Borough (e.g. Hunstanton) and around King’s Lynn.

### **2. Evidence base**

- Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (2021)
- GI Strategy Stage 1 (2009) and Stage 2 (2010)
- Norfolk Visitor Pressure Study by Footprint Ecology (2017)
- Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (2020/2021) produced on behalf of the NSPF

The Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (2021) in turn draws on a range of other sources, in particular Natural England SSSI condition surveys.

### **1. Strategic Partners**

Norfolk County Council  
Natural England

Norfolk Duty to Cooperate Member Forum

Breckland District Council  
Broadland District Council  
Broads Authority  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Norfolk County Council  
North Norfolk County Council  
Norwich City Council  
South Norfolk District Council  
Suffolk County Council (Observer)

Norfolk Strategic Planning Group (Officer Group)

Breckland District Council  
Broadland District Council

Broads Authority  
Environment Agency  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Norfolk County Council  
North Norfolk District Council  
Norwich City Council  
South Norfolk District Council

Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership membership as *NSPG*

*above plus* - Anglian Water  
Forestry Commission  
Natural England  
British Trust for Ornithology  
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group  
Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society  
Norfolk Wildlife Trust  
RSPB  
University of East Anglia  
Water Management Alliance

Norfolk Coast (AONB) Partnership

Norfolk County Council  
North Norfolk District Council  
Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Broads Authority  
Community representatives

Borough Council HRA Monitoring and Mitigation and GI Coordination Panel

## 2. Actions

Action: Ongoing discussions in a range of groups as to the challenge to identify with any confidence what impact new housing would have on designated sites (from the perspective of both the authorities' planning growth and bodies responsible for managing designated sites);

the difficulty of gauging the relative impact of new housing populations compared to those impacts arising from existing residential populations and from tourism;  
emerging experience among partners of objections/concerns re plans and developments, and methods of addressing these.

Partners: Norfolk Strategic Planning Group, Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership

Outcome: Agreement to pursue joint research to establish key parameters. This will inform future plans and HRAs, and help decide scales and types of 'diversionary' green infrastructure for planned allocations in current proposed plan housing allocations

Date: 4th September 2014 (Norfolk Strategic Planning Group); 8th October 2014 (Norfolk Duty-to-Cooperate Member Forum).

## 3. Outcomes from strategic working



The cooperation enabled the Borough to:

- tailor the policies for the housing allocations and show how adverse impacts on designated sites will be avoided;
- refine its Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Plan review.
- Local Plan Review - tailored policies for the housing allocations which were found sound in the SADMP 2016 and are being brought forward in the LPR
- Local Plan Policies which are relevant from the outcome of monitoring information and working with local authorities on cross boundary issues LP19 Environmental Assets - Green Infrastructure, Landscape Character, Biodiversity and Geodiversity, LP27 - Habitats Regulation Assessment addresses strategic issue

#### **4. Ongoing Cooperation**

- 1) The plan includes monitoring mechanisms to gauge whether, as intended, adverse impacts from the relevant housing allocations are avoided.
- 2) GIRAMS.
- 3) Monitoring and mitigation mechanisms in place with the BC HRA/GI Panel?

## Landscape protection – Norfolk Coast Project (AONB) -

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

#### Landscape protection – Norfolk Coast Project (AONB)

- The statutory designation of the Norfolk Coast (North of King's Lynn to Great Yarmouth) as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is a significant factor when dealing with development proposals in the coastal area in West Norfolk.
- The potential tension from protecting the quality of the landscape at the same time as ensuring appropriate development can take place could be a problem.

### 2. Evidence base

- The Local Plan Review acknowledges the quality of the coastal area and also the value in economic terms of tourism.
- The current AONB Management Plan 2014-2019 (currently under review with a new AONB MP out for consultation)
- Evidence gathered for the Management Plan acts as a check to our new policy approach in the Local Plan Review under LP16 Norfolk Coast AONB Policy
- The Norfolk Coast Project undertook a review process (workshops, draft documents, consultations, both with constituent authorities and other stakeholders).
- Examples of recent evidence collected includes a study of visitors to sensitive sites as a contribution to the recreational pressures issue dealt with on a separate sheet in this Report.

### 3. Strategic Partners

(As Core Management Group)

- Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk
- North Norfolk District Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Great Yarmouth Borough Council
- Broads Authority
- DEFRA
- Natural England
- Norfolk Coast Partnership
- Marine Management Organisation

### 4. Actions

- Core Management Group meetings held approximately quarterly

## **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

- There has been a more co-ordinated approach to the role of the AONB in addressing social, economic as well as environmental – landscape issues across the designated area. Representations from the Norfolk Coast Partnership and other statutory bodies including Natural England suggested further investigating an AONB policy. The Borough Council have had ongoing discussions with the NCP on our draft approach to the AONB policy to our final draft of the implementation of the new AONB policy to address strategic issues for the area and make sure we have covered key points within the policy about the ongoing strategic work being undertaken by the AONB Management Plan.

## **6. Ongoing cooperation**

- The Borough Council is a member of the Core Management Group for the Project, contributing financially to the running of the Project.

## Coastal Management

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

Coastal Management - adopting the appropriate planning response to long term coastal management issues identified in the Shoreline Management Plans for our area.

### 2. Evidence base

- The Wash Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) (2010).
- The Wash East Coastal Management Strategy (WECMS) (2015).
- The North Norfolk SMP (2011).
- Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan (2020).
- A Coastal Zone Planning Statement of Common Ground (2018)
- SFRA Level 1 (2018) and Level 2 (2019)
- East Offshore and Inshore Marine Plans (2014)

### 3. Strategic Partners

East Anglian Coastal Group (EACG) (all coastal local authorities from Lincs. to Essex, Natural England (NE), led by Environment Agency (EA).

Wash East Coastal Management Strategy (WECMS) Stakeholder Forum – town and parish councils, EA, BCKLWN, individual chalet owner groups, other individual environmental & heritage organisations, individual landowners.

Wash East Coastal Management Strategy (WECMS) Funding Group - BCKLWN, EA, AW, CIC

LGA Coastal Special Interest Group (SIG) (all coastal local authorities in England).

Anglian Coastal Monitoring Group (ACMG) (all coastal local authorities from Lincs. to Essex + EA).

SMP Groups – being reformed in 2021 following SMP refresh process

### 4. Outcomes from strategic working

Action: Preparing the joint Wash East Coastal Management Strategy

Partners: EA

Outcome: Approval of the Strategy

Date: 2015

Action: Preparing the Coastal Zone Planning SOCG

Partners: other coastal local planning authorities in Norfolk and Suffolk/EA

Outcome: Agreed in 2018

Date: 2018

Policies within the Local Plan Review - LP15 Coastal Areas, LP16 Norfolk Coast AONB Policy, LP17 Coastal Change Management Area (Hunstanton to Dersingham) Policy, LP24 Sites in Areas of Flood Risk Policy

## **6. Ongoing cooperation**

Structures set up to oversee future funding and policy issues.

SMP monitoring through EACG.

## Heritage Action Zone

<b>1. Strategic Planning issue</b>
<b>2. Evidence Base</b>
2 Heritage Action Zones in King's Lynn designated on Historic England Website (and KL Town Centre HAZ)
<b>3. Strategic Partners</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Historic England</li><li>• Conservation/Regeneration Officers</li></ul>
<b>4. Outcomes from strategic working</b>
Recognise the importance of the designated HAZ (2017) within King's Lynn. Incorporated this information within the SA Scoping report update and influence in LP36 Policy
<b>5. Ongoing Cooperation</b>
Working with LPA colleagues and Historic England on the importance and action taking place within HAZ in King's Lynn and other issues which may arise within the LPR

## Wisbech Fringe

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

Wisbech Fringe – To plan for strategic growth to the east of the town of Wisbech, working alongside Fenland District Council to deliver a comprehensive approach to development.

### 2. Evidence base

- Fenland District Council (FDC) - Fenland Local Plan adopted May 2014.
- Wisbech Area Transport Study Feb 2013.
- FDC Infrastructure Delivery Plan Feb 2013.
- East Wisbech Broad Concept Plan 2018
- Wisbech Access Strategy 2018

### 3. Strategic Partners

- Fenland District Council
- Norfolk County Council (NCC)
- Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC)
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA)
- Wisbech Town Council (WTC)
- Highways England (HE)

### 4. Actions

Action: Adoption of Fenland District Council - Fenland Local Plan 2014

Partners: Fenland District Council

Outcome: Adoption

Date: May 2014

Action: Approval of East Wisbech Broad Concept Plan

Partners: Fenland District Council

Outcome: Approval

Date: 2018

Action: Ongoing 'Wisbech Access Strategy Members Steering Group' work/meetings

Partners: FDC/ KLWNBC / CCC /CPCA/WTC/ NCC / HE

Outcome: Working towards implementation of transport improvements to the east of Wisbech, to facilitate delivery of the site.

Date: ongoing

### 5. Outcomes from strategic working

- Adoption of FDC Local Plan – policy LP7 Urban Extensions and LP8 Wisbech
- Progression of Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Document – policy F3.1 Wisbech Fringe
- Approval of East Wisbech Broad Concept Plan (2018)
- Completion of joint transport modelling work to inform the allocation and facilitate the delivery of sites – Wisbech Area Transport Study & Wisbech Access Strategy (2018)

## **6. Ongoing cooperation**

- Monitoring of policies within each Local Plan
- Continued consultation on policy issues/applications between authorities.
- Wisbech Access Strategy Members Steering Group (Officers and Members)



## Neighbourhood Plans

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

Neighbourhood Plans play a pivotal role in the planning system and allow a stronger community engagement for guiding development plans in a direction that locals want for their parished or unparished area. Due to the high level of interest and ongoing preparation within over a third to a half of the Borough, neighbourhood plans must be reflected in the Local Plan as important, especially with their flexibility and specific requirements on housing allocations they may wish to bring forward outside of the planned allocations within the local development plan.

### 2. Evidence Base

- NSPF Meeting Papers NP Updates within the Norfolk County
- Currently the Borough Council have 6 adopted NPs (Brancaster recently passing its NP Review)
- Four are awaiting a referendum due to take place July 2021
- One NP is at their decision-making stage (June 2021)
- Three are at the examination stage (May/June 2021)
- In total there are approx. 34 Parishes which are in the process of creating a NP (either beginning or adopted). This makes up around 1/3 of the borough's settlements

### 3. Strategic Partners

- Norfolk County Council
- Local planning authorities
- Norfolk Strategic Planning Forum
- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- King's Lynn & West Norfolk parish councils
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Groups
- Public and interested bodies e.g., agents, consultants

### 4. Outcomes from strategic working

Due to the overarching interest in neighbourhood plans in these settlements we allow the flexibility of making allocations to be in the control of these settlements except for the SADMP 2016 Allocations which are being carried over into the Local Plan Review. This is reflected within the Local Plan document under all parish settlements which have designated their NP settlement.

### 5. Ongoing Cooperation

Ongoing cooperation through meetings, email/phone with all NP working groups/parish councils to keep on track of progress

## Implementation

### 1. Strategic Planning issue

**Implementation** - to plan for the infrastructure needed to accompany planned growth.

The Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (NSIDP) is a key document and has been produced by the County Council working with all the local planning authorities and utility providers. It identifies strategic infrastructure requirements and provides an update on the delivery of a range of projects. The projects in the NSIDP reflect the key infrastructure needed to deliver the scale of growth ambitions outlined in the NSPF (building a bottom up picture of key strategic infrastructure to support planned growth).

The NSIDP is a working document that will be regularly updated as information becomes available. (A new version of the NSIDP was released in November 2020).

The IDP will help co-ordination, implementation, prioritise activity and respond to any funding opportunities. It will also enable Local Authorities to prioritise the release of revenue funding for the development of scheme information to assist the prospects of successful bids being made for capital funding to deliver further projects.

### 2. Evidence base

2010 Infrastructure Study (other background documents are listed within)

2014 Infrastructure Study (other background documents are listed within)

CIL Viability Study (Nov. 2013)

Draft Infrastructure Requirements List (Regulation123 List) Nov. 2014

Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (NSIDP) 2020

BCKLWN CIL Spending and Governance document 2020

LPR Viability Study (2021)

### 3. Strategic Partners

**Norfolk Strategic Services Coordinating Group –**

(Chair) Shaping Norfolk's Future

Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

ICT Services, Norfolk County Council

Planning, Performance & Partnerships, Norfolk County Council

Anglian Water

Norwich City Council

Children's Services, Norfolk County Council

NHS Norfolk

Transport Strategy, Norfolk County Council  
UK Power Networks  
Greater Norwich Development Partnership  
Norfolk Fire and Rescue  
Children's Services, Norfolk County Council  
South Norfolk District Council  
Wherry Housing Association  
Planning Strategy, Norfolk County Council  
Environment Agency  
Norfolk Property Services  
North Norfolk District Council  
Broadland District Council  
North Norfolk District Council  
RAF Marham  
Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health Trust  
Norwich City Council  
Anglian Water

**Norfolk Strategic Planning Group** – all Norfolk local authorities.

**Norfolk Infrastructure Plan Steering Group:**

Anglian Water  
UK Power Networks  
Transport Planning (Norfolk County Council)  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk  
Norfolk Fire and Rescue  
Environment Agency  
Greater Norwich Development Partnership  
Anglian Water  
Norfolk County Council (Better Broadband for Norfolk)  
UK Power Networks

Local Strategic Partnership – West Norfolk Partnership Strategy Group

Specific meetings with service/infrastructure providers e.g. education, health, police, fire and letters/questionnaires requesting information/service plans/capital programmes, etc.

CIL Viability Study – developers/agents briefings.

BCKLWN CIL Spending Panel – to co-ordinate spending with BC Corporate Plan objectives (to support growth).

**4. Actions**

Action: Preparation of Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) for West Winch growth area  
Partners: major landowners/developers/Norfolk County Council  
Outcome: agreed IDP  
Date: 2015

Action: Implementation of a CIL  
Partners: major landowners/developers/Norfolk County Council / Infrastructure providers  
Date: ongoing

Action: Preparation of Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)  
Partners: Norfolk County Council / Norfolk local authorities / infrastructure providers / utility companies  
Outcome: agreed NSIDP  
Date: ongoing

#### **5. Outcomes from strategic working**

Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (NSIDP)  
Local Plan Review Policies - LP05 Implementation Policy

#### **6. Ongoing cooperation**

Norfolk Strategic Services Coordinating Group, Norfolk Strategic Planning Group  
Regular/ongoing discussions with service/infrastructure providers.

## Appendix 2- Diagram: Strategic Issues within and outside of the Strategic Planning Area of King's Lynn & West Norfolk



