

Our ref:

Your ref:

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan
Boston Borough Council
Municipal Buildings
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PE21 8QR
Planning Policy Team
via Email:

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21 August 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSULTATION ON THE MAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE SOUTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Main Modifications to the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan that covers the period 2011-2036. We note that these modifications are the result of the Examination in Public of the Local Plan which took place between October 2017 and April 2018.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is our role to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth. In relation to the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan, Highways England's principal concern is safeguarding the operation of the A1 which routes approximately 10 miles to the west of the Plan area.

We understand that the Plan sets out an updated housing target of approximately 19,425 dwellings (previously 18,675) of which 7,744 dwellings (previously 7,550) are allocated to the Borough of Boston and 11,681 dwellings (previously 11,125) to the District of South Holland. This is an increase of 750 dwellings from the Publication Version of the Local Plan and has been raised in recognition of the under-delivery of housing completions over the last five years. We further note that there have been slight changes in the location of employment sites.

We welcome the addition to Policy 3: Design of New Development which states "Sites allocated for residential and employment related development in this Local Plan have been assessed to provide guidance with regard to constraints and infrastructure requirements" and we support the principle of encouraging active travel in the design of new buildings and spaces. Furthermore, we are supportive of changes to Policy 6: Developer Contributions which now notes that the provision of transport infrastructure will be made in accordance with Local Plan Policy 33: Delivering a More Sustainable

Transport Network as well as the policies related to individual SUEs and transport schemes.

In our previous response to the Publication Version of the Local Plan, we raised limited concerns regarding potential development growth coming forward and impacts upon the operation of the SRN given the distance of the SRN from the Plan area. Whilst there have been some changes made to the growth targets in the Plan, we consider that these are relatively limited in nature and we therefore maintain our position that Local Plan growth is unlikely to significantly impact upon the operation of the SRN.

Going forward, we would expect the impacts on the highway network of larger sites to be considered as part of the development management process and for engagement to be maintained with Highways England through the on-going Plan process. We have no further comments to provide, and trust the above is useful in the progression of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

Yours sincerely,



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**JOINT COMMITTEE RESPONSE
FORM**

REP: MM16(1)

PMM REF: PMM004

The support for PMM004 is noted, and the Joint Committee has no comments.