

11 August 2025

**Brendan Gallagher**  
**Principal Planning Policy Officer**  
Strategic Planning  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Lancaster House  
36 Orchard Street  
Lincoln, LN1 1XX

South Kesteven District Council  
(Sent electronically only)

Planning Policy Team

### **South Kesteven District Council – Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation**

Please find the following formal comments of Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) in response to the South Kesteven District Council Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan consultation.

Notwithstanding specific points raised in the response, LCC supports the vision, objectives, and overall approach to delivering sustainable growth across South Kesteven as put forward in the previous Regulation 18 consultation. Our county's land is under unprecedented pressure from development, and while we recognise the benefits it can bring, it must be the right growth in the right place. Matters such as the needs of our communities and business as well, as the infrastructure needs of the county must be balanced.

#### *Highways*

We have previously raised significant concern in relation to Site SKPR-7. We reiterate those comments with the proposed inclusion of the site in the proposed Plan:

'Access only appears possible from the existing roundabout near the Co-op. The northern roundabout cannot accommodate a fifth arm. The proposal seeks to introduce too many dwellings from one point of access. There is insufficient connectivity to the town centre for sustainable transport modes.'

#### *Education*

In relation to the additional dwelling numbers proposed in the SKDC local plan, LCC Education have looked at the proposed numbers and the impact they could have on Education infrastructure in the areas. The additional dwellings will potentially have an impact on this infrastructure, and it is going to be vital that capital in almost all the areas and land in some of the areas is secured as mitigation for this additional as well as the original planned development.

Some village schools may need to increase capacity which will require land to ensure they remain compliant against statutory guidance and capital to ensure the burden of this increase is mitigated by the developers. This is obviously only possible if land is available for the school to utilise and expand. With some of the primary schools in the villages it may be that they do not have the ability to expand the school if necessary, this will create increased pressures on Home to School transport for LCC and will mean that children will not be able to access the local school to their home address.

All phases of education will be affected by this increase; therefore, education requests are likely to be made across all phases for each development. We appreciate that it has been mentioned in previous comments on the allocation and this has especially been noted in the Bourne allocation. In the Bourne allocation we have noted that land will need to be secured has been formalised, the land mentioned being for the secondary phase, but with the proposed further increase in numbers that requirement may need to be further reviewed due to further proposed increase in pupil numbers from these additional dwellings. We may need to make a request for more land for the school. The primary phases may also need mitigating as the planning area is according to current predictions looking set to be full and unable to accommodate further pupils without expansions.

The potential additional allocation for Grantham will require mitigation this could be resolved if the SUEs at Spitalgate and the Barracks do come forward in the expected way, but if they do not, we do expect that we will make mitigation requests of land and capital to support the need for additional infrastructure in the town for any additional developments.

For Market Deeping, we are aware of an allocation of an SUE within the Peterborough Local Plan that is proposed to be close to the Lincolnshire border and will therefore potentially have an impact on the secondary education provision in Lincolnshire. With the proposed increase from SKDC for the town this will have a further huge impact on the area and the secondary school education phase especially. We expect based on current projections that schools within the area may require additional land and capacity to be able to cope with the additional numbers of children created by these developments.

To reiterate, the additional developments proposed are likely to have an impact on Education Infrastructure in the planning areas. LCC would look to secure land and/or capital from developers to ensure that the impact is mitigated.

### *Electricity Infrastructure*

To assess if access to power could be a barrier for the proposed housing sites, the demand headroom at Primary Substations in the focus areas have been reviewed on the NGED's Network Opportunity Map ([National Grid - Network Opportunity Map](#)), which provides an indication of connection opportunities. The maps show a RAG rating indicating the headroom for both the existing connected network position and the future contracted position, and is intended to guide the user to areas of the network where a connection is more likely to be achieved without significant distribution reinforcement. The below indicates that there could be potential power constraints at some of the proposed sites that may benefit from early engagement with the DNO.

<b>Area</b>	<b>Housing Distribution</b>	<b>Primary Substation</b>	<b>Primary Substation RAG Rating - Connected</b>	<b>Primary Substation RAG Rating - Contracted</b>
<b>Grantham</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>Grantham North</b>		
		<b>Grantham South</b>		
		<b>New Beacon Road</b>		
<b>Stamford</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>Stamford 11Kv S Stn</b>		
<b>Bourne</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>Bourne 11Kv S Stn</b>		
		<b>Tunnel Bank, Bourne</b>		
<b>The Deepings</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>Market Deeping 33 11Kv S Stn</b>		
		<b>West Deeping 33 11Kv S Stn</b>		
<b>Larger Villages and Other Settlements</b>	<b>19% and 4%</b>	<b>Primary Substations vary in accordance to location. Please refer to NGED Network Opportunities Map for further information</b> <a href="#"><u>National Grid - Network Opportunity Map</u></a>		

Please note the NGED map was last updated on the 17/03/2025

Please continue to engage Lincolnshire County Council in further stages of Local Plan preparation.

Yours faithfully

Brendan Gallagher  
Principal Planning Policy Officer

26 August 2025

**Brendan Gallagher**  
**Principal Planning Policy Officer**  
Strategic Planning  
Lincolnshire County Council  
Lancaster House  
36 Orchard Street  
Lincoln, LN1 1XX

South Kesteven District Council  
(Sent electronically only)

Planning Policy Team

Dear Malavika

**South Kesteven District Council – Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation additional comments**

Please find the following formal comments of Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) in response to the South Kesteven District Council Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan consultation. These are in addition to our letter of 11 August 2025 and should be read alongside those comments.

*Flooding*

In addition to the above, LCC's Floods and Water have considered the proposed numbers and positioning of dwellings in terms of how they could impact on local sources of flooding, on-going flood alleviation schemes, and / or maintenance of existing drainage assets. Whilst we acknowledge that the impacts of any of the proposed sites on local flood risk and drainage asset maintenance cannot be definitively confirmed at this stage, we, nonetheless, consider that additional dwellings may potentially increase the exposure to flooding combined with increasing the complexity of drainage asset maintenance (particularly in those instances whereby properties abut watercourses on both sides of the channel) and reliance on existing (ageing) drainage networks to function at maximum capacity in all scenarios. As such it is vital that mitigations in this area are secured from the outset of development especially when factoring in current climate projections.

In particular, mitigations for all proposed sites should, where applicable, factor in the following as a minimum, in conjunction with existing legal requirements:

- (a) Any proposed development must ensure that the receiving drainage network is both of sufficient condition and has the capacity to convey the additional inflows without increasing the risk of flooding to those downstream,

(b) Where possible existing watercourses should form part of any developments landscape with clear documentation communicated as to the parties responsible for on-going maintenance, with the ease of said maintenance being secured through buffer zones of at least 9 metres in width, and

(c) Any proposed development does not compromise the ability of LCC to deliver on any of the on-going flood alleviation schemes that are in active development at the time of writing without provision of adequate mitigation. Whilst the majority of LCC's on-going flood alleviation schemes within South Kesteven are unlikely to be directly impacted by the proposed sites, Site SKPR-322 features prominently within the active investigation at Claypole. The erection of new dwellings will potentially prevent flood alleviation works in this area and therefore it is vital that mitigation be secured for existing properties as well as the planned development.

To reiterate, the additional developments proposed may potentially increase the risk of flooding and / or complexity of existing drainage networks in the planning areas. LCC would, therefore, look to secure suitable mitigations as part of the development process and would encourage early engagement from prospective developers to better understand flooding within the vicinity of the site concerned and on-going activities by the Lead Local Flood Authority. This is with a view to ensure that the risks of development are mitigated in a sustainable manner.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter. Please continue to engage Lincolnshire County Council in further stages of Local Plan preparation.

Yours sincerely

Brendan Gallagher  
Principal Planning Policy Officer