



Please ask for: Mr L Brown  
Direct Dialling:  
E-mail: [REDACTED]

19th February 2016

Dear Sir/ Madam,

### **Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA Screening Statement**

As you will be aware, the requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be undertaken on development plans and programmes that may have a significant environmental effect is outlined in European Union Directive 200142/EC. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) state that this is determined by a screening process, utilising a specified set of criteria which is outlined in Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

As the responsible authority under Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004, West Lindsey District Council have assessed the contents of the emerging NDP against criteria provided in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Regulations and have produced a Screening Assessment.

In the case of a Sustainability Appraisal for a Neighbourhood Plan the Parish Council will be required to address the issues related to the additional growth proposed in an area. The SA/SEA process should be proportionate to the scale and nature of the NDP. "It does not need to be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is considered to be appropriate for the content and level of detail in the neighbourhood plan" (see paragraph 30 of the Planning Practice Guidance).

There is also no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal as set out in section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. However, a qualifying body – in this case the Parish Council - must demonstrate how its plan or order will contribute to achieving sustainable development.

West Lindsey District Council considers that the emerging Scothern Neighbourhood Plan will not require a full Sustainability Appraisal as the emerging Plan only seeks to allocate sites that have already obtained planning permission.

I can therefore confirm on behalf of the Council that the emerging Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and current intentions will not have significant effects on the environment and we are therefore considered that a full Sustainability Appraisals will not be required.

Yours sincerely

**Chief Operating Officer**