

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT NO: DCS8

DATE: 9TH AUGUST 2004

TITLE:	A CHECKLIST FOR GRANTHAM AS A SUB-REGIONAL CENTRE
FORWARD PLAN ITEM:	Yes
DATE WHEN FIRST APPEARED IN FORWARD PLAN:	16.07.04
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Key Decision

COUNCIL AIMS/PORTFOLIO HOLDER NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Councillor John Smith; Economic Portfolio
CORPORATE PRIORITY:	<u>(A) Priority</u> Development of the town centres in Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings and the development of Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre.
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	Identified in Checklist.
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Previous Reports to Council

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following the approval at Council of Category A Priorities, further work has been undertaken to establish criteria by which we can judge progress towards developing Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre.
- 1.2 To assist in this task a checklist has been produced to help identify the attributes of a Sub-Regional Centre. The Checklist is attached as Appendix A. The list of attributes has been produced following evaluation of information provided by the East Midlands Development Agency and in recent information published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and following the input of Chief Officer's Management Team.
- 1.3 The draft Checklist provides a means of monitoring progress against a clear set of aims for Grantham. It goes beyond just measuring the importance of a town by virtue of its population.

2. WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1 It is recognised that the Checklist identifies many areas which the Council has no direct responsibility for providing. However, the Council does have much influence in terms of community leadership and may be able to assist in achieving the full list of items in partnership with the public, private and voluntary sectors. Furthermore, the Council is able to develop planning and regeneration policies to facilitate progress towards achieving sub-regional status for Grantham.

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 It is proposed to test out the validity of the Checklist through a process of consultation. The approach suggested is consistent with the Council's Consultation Procedure.
- 3.2 Subject to the approval of this report by Cabinet it is proposed to consult using the following methods:-
 - To ask the Grantham Local Area Assembly scheduled to meet on 23rd August to discuss and to comment on the "Checklist".
 - To request the appropriate Development and Scrutiny Panels to consider the 'Checklist'.
 - To seek comments from members of the Local Strategic Partnership and Town Centre Partnership at their next meetings.
 - To seek the views of members of the Grantham Business Club.
 - To ask the local media to invite comments from their audiences about the 'Checklist'.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- 4.1 The draft Checklist for Grantham be approved and a period of consultation be undertaken as outlined in this report.**
- 4.2 Following the consultation, a further report be presented to Cabinet detailing the response to the Checklist.**

5. CONTACT OFFICER

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DRAFT CHECK-LIST FOR GRANTHAM AS A SUB-REGIONAL CENTRE

REQUIREMENT	MET?
ENTERTAINMENT	
Multi-screen cinema.	X
Skate-board park.	✓
Well-maintained parks and public spaces.	✓
Appropriate provision for the arts.	✓
Music/entertainment venues with a capacity 1,000 – 1,500 people	✓
EDUCATION	
Availability of high performing six form education.	✓
College of further education.	✓
Network of performing secondary schools with specialist status.	✓
Network of life long adult education provision.	✓
Access to higher education .	✓
HEALTH/COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Access to 2-3 star rated primary and acute healthcare provision.	X
Provision of supported home care.	✓
Childcare provision (Surestart) (National Children's Centres)	✓
Provision of cemetery and cremation services.	✓
Community Advice Support and Information.	✓
Voluntary Support Networks.	✓
HOSPITALITY	
Good range of high quality hotel accommodation.	✓
Conference facilities for medium size regional events.	✓
LEISURE/CULTURAL PROVISION	
High-quality leisure centre with regional facilities	✓
Good provision of local multi-purpose halls.	✓
Attractive and accessible countryside amenities close to the town.	✓
Network of sports arts and vocational /clubs and societies.	✓
MANAGEMENT	
Active and well-supported town-centre partnership	✓
Full-time town centre manager	X
Active and supportive Business Club or Chamber of Commerce.	✓
Effective partnership working through a Local Strategic Partnership representing public, private and voluntary sectors and the wider community.	✓
NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY	
Appropriate mix of entertainment and restaurant facilities.	X

<u>COMMUNITY SAFETY</u>	
CCTV coverage	✓
‘Safer by Design’ car park and pedestrian linkages.	X
<u>REGIONAL IDENTITY</u>	
A significant or unique attraction that complements the town.	X
Appropriate signage and branding for the town.	X
Cultural event/s to create regional identity and awareness/reputation of Town.	X
Interpretation of historic heritage (Physical/ Intellectual).	X
<u>RETAIL</u>	
Flag-ship Department store/Anchor Store.	X
Diverse mix of small and specialist shops.	X
Vibrant market.	X
Wide range of quality retail stores (Young Fashion).	X
Edge of town retail park	✓
<u>ECONOMIC/BUSINESS SECTOR</u>	
Access to business start up and incubator units.	X
Access to low cost managed work space.	X
Access to social enterprise projects (NFP Sector).	X
Broadband Access.	✓
<u>TOWNSCAPE</u>	
High quality and attractive pedestrianised space and safe links between important areas of the Town.	X
Calmed traffic in the town centre and High Street.	X
Development of strategic car parks.	In-hand
Flag-ship regeneration scheme accessible from the town centre.	X
High standards of street care.	X
<u>HOUSING</u>	
Supply of mixed housing provision housing.	✓
<u>TRANSPORT</u>	
Good road and rail links	✓
Facilities for cycling and walking	✓
Appropriate bus services	X
Integrated public transport links that help people travel within and between communities.	X