

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT NO: DCS9

DATE: 11TH OCTOBER 2004

TITLE:	A Checklist for Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre
FORWARD PLAN ITEM:	Yes
DATE WHEN FIRST APPEARED IN FORWARD PLAN:	16 th July 2004
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Key Decision

COUNCIL AIMS/PORTFOLIO HOLDER NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Councillor John Smith; Economic Portfolio
CORPORATE PRIORITY:	“A” Priority 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.

1.0 INTRODUCTION OR SUMMARY

- 1.1** On the 9th August 2004 Cabinet considered a report that outlined criteria for judging progress towards the development of Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre. The Checklist was approved by Cabinet for consultation.
- 1.2** The Checklist has been presented to a number of important groups of people namely:-
 - Local Area Assembly (Grantham) – 23rd August 2004
 - Grantham Town Centre Management Partnership – 10th September 2004
 - Grantham Business Club – 14th September 2004

- 1.3** The Checklist missed the Agenda for the September meeting of the Economic and Cultural Development and Scrutiny Panel and it is suggested that the views of the DSP be sought and reported to Cabinet should this be necessary.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** The Cabinet is requested to :-
 - (a) approve the amended Checklist for Grantham for the purpose of monitoring progress towards achieving Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre.
 - (b) to request the Economic & Cultural Development and Scrutiny Panel to consider the checklist at the meeting scheduled for 11th November and report back their comments to Cabinet if necessary.
 - (c) to thank those partners who contributed ideas and comment during the consultation period.

3.0 COMMENTS OF CONSULTEES

- 3.1** The Local Area Assembly were supportive of the Checklist and had no points to add.
- 3.2** The Grantham Town Centre Management Partnership again supported the Checklist however, comment was made about the current retail offer in Grantham. More specifically it was suggested that the level of specialist shops, e.g. antiques, arts crafts and jewellery were consistent with a sub-regional centre.
- 3.3** Grantham Business Club Members of the Grantham Business Club commented that more emphasis needs to be placed on business development and inward investment outside of the town centre. They also commented that more consideration is needed to the opportunities for developing local skills. The checklist has been amended to reflect these points and is attached as Appendix A.

4.0 COMMENTS OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND STRATEGIC RESOURCES

None.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The amended Checklist will provide a useful means of monitoring progress towards developing Grantham as a Sub-Regional Centre.

6.0. CONTACT OFFICER

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29th September 2004
