

Appendix 2 – Details of the amendments made to the Economic Development Strategy & Action Plan 2024 – 2028, formed from the consultation responses and members workshop.

Area of Strategy: **Executive Summary**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
This strategy is best seen as a living, dynamic document which requires the Council to build a comprehensive system ensuring everyone in the organisation is making good decisions that support it.		This strategy is best seen as a living, dynamic document which requires the Council to build a comprehensive system ensuring all partners and stakeholders across the district are making decisions that support it.

Area of Strategy: **The Local Economy**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
There is a need to upskill the local resident base to more effectively capture high value growth opportunities and job growth in the future.	Respondents would like the strategy to be more specific on what the local issues are i.e. economic activity rates, skills, company profiles or other.	There is a need to tackle all drivers of Productivity Land, Labour, Capital and Enterprise to effectively grow, retain capture high value growth opportunities and growth in the future.

Area of Strategy: **Summary SWOT Analysis**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
There is a need to upskill the local resident base to more effectively capture high value growth opportunities and job growth in the future.		There is a need to tackle all drivers of Productivity Land, Labour, Capital and Enterprise to effectively grow, retain capture high value growth opportunities and job growth in the future.
Strength: Connectivity	<i>'I disagree connectivity is a strength... inter village and town connectivity barely exists'</i>	Strength: Regional connectivity Weakness: Local transport connectivity

Area of Strategy: **An Economic Vision**

Original text	Feedback from the members workshop	Amended text
South Kesteven has a thriving, innovative and diverse economy and is recognised as a great place to live, visit, invest and do business. The District's economy is growing strongly, increasingly based upon knowledge-intensive services, generating high quality jobs, with productivity levels well above the regional median and wages above the national average	Members commented that the vision as currently stated within the document was too generic and could apply to any district. Requirement to edit the vision statement to include the ambition to retain, grow and attract employment.	South Kesteven has a thriving, innovative and diverse economy and is recognised as a great place to live, visit, invest and do business. The District's economy is growing strongly, through the retention, growth and attraction of increasingly based upon knowledge-intensive services, generating high quality jobs, with productivity levels above the regional median and wages above the national average.

Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 2: Skills Development. What we will do**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
	<i>'We have a severe lack of skilled workers certainly within Grantham and also an aging work force.'</i>	Provide opportunities to retain the District's young talent and to attract young professionals into the local economy.
	<i>'Identify skills gaps in local area and work with organisations/businesses to provide skills training to help promote skills development.'</i>	Work with education providers and local businesses to highlight the range of career options available in the district.

Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 3: Inclusive Growth and Regeneration – What we have achieved**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
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The adopted Local Plan provides the vision and framework for how long-term housing, commercial and infrastructure growth will be delivered in South Kesteven.		The adopted Local Plan provides the vision and framework for how long-term housing, commercial and infrastructure growth will be delivered in South Kesteven, supporting Grantham's ambitions as a 'sub-regional' centre for investment.
The Council was successful in securing £5.56m from Government to deliver the Grantham Future High Streets Fund programme aimed at improving access to, and the appearance in and around, the Grantham Station Approach area, enhancements to and widen participation opportunities in Grantham Market Place and increase the amount of town centre residential units by converting empty upper floor retail space.		The Council was successful in securing £5.56m from Government to deliver the Grantham Future High Streets Fund programme aimed at improving access to, and the appearance in and around, the Grantham Station Approach area, enhancements to Grantham Market Place and creating opportunities to widen participation in the town's markets and events, and increase the amount of good quality town centre residential units by converting empty upper floor retail space.
Grantham was a 2022 finalist for the Academy of Urbanism Great Town award.	Requirement to add in the Talk of the Town – Rising Star award.	In 2022 Grantham was a finalist for both the Academy of Urbanism Great Town Award, and the Visa 'Talk of the Town – Rising Star' award.

Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 3: Inclusive Growth and Regeneration – What we will do**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
Produce a Conservation and Heritage Strategy.	Addition of ways to we preserve and enhance heritage assets of the district.	- Produce a Conservation and Heritage Strategy. - Explore opportunities for securing further funding to support the conservation and regeneration of the

		district's-built heritage.
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Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 4: Inward Investment – What we have achieved**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
Prince William of Gloucester Barracks – Due for decommissioning as a British Army installation in 2028, after which the site is expected to commence with 1,245 dwellings anticipated to be delivered between 2026/2027 and 2035/2036, with a further 2,755 beyond 2036.	Correction of figures	Prince William of Gloucester Barracks – Due for decommissioning as a British Army installation in 2028, after which the site is expected to deliver 3,500 – 4,000 units with approx. 1,745 anticipated to be constructed by 2041 with the rest beyond.
Stamford North – A development led by Burghley House Preservation Trust with GummerLeathes, as master developer. The aspiration is to establish a beautiful, thriving, and sustainable new community.	Inclusion of working relationship with Rutland County Council	Stamford North – A cross boundary strategic development with Rutland County Council led by Burghley House Preservation Trust with GummerLeathes, as master developer. The aspiration is to establish a beautiful, thriving, and sustainable new community.
The Deepings – Whilst two strategic development sites – the expansion of an industrial estate and employment generating land have been allocated in the current Local Plan period, neither have planning permission.	Further detail required on the strategic development sites	The Deepings currently has two large strategic allocations within the local plan. This consists of 680 unit residential scheme off Linchfield Road and 14ha employment generating expansion to the currently operating Northfields Industrial Estate. At present neither of these sites have planning permission.

Commenced partial review of the Local Plan – The current Local Plan was adopted in January 2020. The Council is now focusing its ambitions on building more affordable homes and planning for major growth. To address these priorities, a partial review of the adopted Local Plan is underway.	Inclusion of a timeline for the adoption of the Local Plan	Commenced partial review of the Local Plan – The current Local Plan was adopted in January 2020. The Council is now focusing its ambitions on building more affordable homes and planning for major growth. To address these priorities, a partial review of the adopted Local Plan is underway and is expected to be adopted in 2026.
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Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 4: Inward Investment – What we will do**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
Increase partnership working with developers and investors – Work in partnership with developers that meet the needs of investors and provide high-quality employment opportunities, especially but not limited, to target growth sectors such as manufacturing, and engineering, construction, professional, technical and scientific services, the health sector and the recreation and arts sectors.	Respondents noted the sectoral approach to supporting new and emerging sectors that will be important in providing new and higher value employment opportunities across SK, however, they felt the strategy should go further and identify which sectors should be supported.	Increase partnership working with developers and investors – Work in partnership with developers that meet the needs of investors and provide high-quality employment opportunities, especially but not limited, to target key growth sectors such as advanced manufacturing, logistics, engineering, health and care, the visitor economy, construction, and the recreation and arts sectors.

Area of Strategy: **Area of strategic focus 3: Inclusive Growth and Regeneration – Action Plan**

Original text	Feedback from the consultation	Amended text
	<i>‘Unlock land and stalled development sites.... I have been banging on about this for around 5 years. I don’t see any new industrial spaces going up anywhere?’</i>	Addition of 3.2 – Ensure a supply of commercial premises that meet the needs of local businesses

3.19 – Reimagine the role of town centres. Review of best practice and successful case studies nationally.	<i>‘There is nothing stated on key issues such as ..‘The changing nature of the high street and variances in our towns. I.e. Stamford is more economically prosperous with higher incomes and GVA. This means more independents retailers and hospitality, with more disposable income. This makes it a more resilient town.’</i>	3.19 – Reimagine the role of town centres, concentrating on the unique advantages of each settlement across the district. Review of best practice and successful case studies nationally.
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Area of Strategy: **Addition of Performance Indicators as a final page in the strategy**

Feedback from the consultation - *‘There are no key performance indicators to measure success, for instance how do we know the strategy, action plan and programmes and projects have been successful’*. This was discussed with Members at the Workshop, who requested that links to the KPIs, as outlined in the corporate plan, are made utilised within the Strategy.

Performance Indicators
The South Kesteven Economic Development Strategy 2024 – 2028 will directly supports the Council’s Corporate Plan aims support ‘A thriving District to live in, work and visit’ Specifically, Priority 3: Enabling Economic Opportunity Mission: To enable and support a dynamic, resilient and growing local economy, which benefits all our communities. To support this approach the Council has adopted several Targets which this Strategy will seek to deliver: • Deliver the Economic Development Strategy and accompanying action plan. ○ 100% of annual actions on target/complete • Deliver initiatives to expand and deepen engagement with business. ○ Following the introduction of a customer relationship management system (CRM), introduce a ‘call and care programme’ to support the top 20 businesses in SK ○ Increase business participation in LEF X12 with Town Councils and Business Clubs • Continue to distribute the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) and explore opportunities to develop a legacy beyond the funding period. ○ 100% of funding distributed • Embed and strengthen the Local Economic Forum as a key institution for local stakeholders to shape the district’s approach to skills, business support and investment. ○ Work closely with Town Councils and Business Clubs across the District • Work with the Lincolnshire Growth Hub to support businesses start, succeed and grow. ○ No of businesses supported x 60 ○ Jobs created x 100 ○ Inward Investment projects attracted x 2 per year • Strategically leverage the Council’s procurement spend to maximise social value ○ Introduce SKDC Procurement Charter to exploit local employment and supply chain opportunities ○ Introduction of a statement of principles and publish guidance for suppliers on how to do business with Council and details of forthcoming bidding opportunities.

- Provide the opportunity for contracts framework and supply chain opportunities through X2 Events
- Consider targeted interventions – planning powers and schemes, to achieve high-quality regeneration across the district and explore options to unlock stalled sites.
 - Develop an investment prospectus to promote the District regionally and nationally
- Develop a long-term approach to regeneration and be prepared for investment and funding opportunities.
 - Prepare a Pipeline of ‘oven ready’ projects x 1 per annum
 - Work with landowners and stakeholders to identify development constraints for identified sites for regeneration x 5 annual visits per annum
 - Linked to point above, evidence demand for electricity and infrastructure network upgrades through the production of a report.
- Continue to promote and develop South Kesteven as an attractive visitor destination, focusing on our cultural and heritage strengths
 - Adoption of the Tourism Strategic Framework
 - Increase annual visitor numbers to South Kesteven by 3% from 2023
 - Increase annual spend by visitor to South Kesteven by 3% from 2023

With additional targets identified to:

- Strengthen the knowledge and expertise of the ‘People and Skills’ sub-group of the LEF through expanded recruitment of the board, with greater representation from local schools in the district.
 - Adopted new Terms of Reference for the LEF People and Skills Sub-Group
- Foster business and education connections through attendance and facilitation of networking events.
 - Network events attended X5
- Proactively seek and support interventions to grow and expand the skill base for businesses, such as SWAP’s, apprenticeships and work placements.
 - Companies supported X3