

North Lincolnshire Economic Renew Plan 2021 – 2023

Draft – August 2021

**North
Lincolnshire**
Council

www.northlincs.gov.uk

Context

The Covid-19 pandemic will have far-reaching impacts on the North Lincolnshire economy. In response we've developed an Economic Renew Plan to support and renew our local economy in the short to medium term and support the local and national recovery.

Reflecting a changing policy environment, this plan will constantly evolve and be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to reflect the emerging priorities. The plan will be shaped through engagement with businesses and key partners.

What we are trying to achieve

Our aims – keeping people safe and well, stimulating economic activity, boosting business confidence and supporting people and jobs

Our current intentions

- Understand the impacts of Covid-19 and other key policy areas, including the end of the EU transition period, on the North Lincolnshire economy in the short and medium term
- Use the data and local intelligence available to gain insight into our local businesses and business sectors to develop policy, provide local intelligence, lobby government and develop support, information advice and guidance to meet local business needs
- Work with businesses, partners and government to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and develop plans for economic recovery.
- Use an intelligence-led approach to develop a robust economic renew plan for North Lincolnshire
- Understand how the end of the EU transition period is impacting on our local economy and put plans in place for challenges and opportunities

We have already made a start

Prior to Covid, North Lincolnshire Council had already set out clear plans and a strong economic growth programme. Our North Lincolnshire Economic Growth Plan focuses heavily on economic growth recognising the crucial role of skills, housing, the visitor economy and infrastructure.

The Covid pandemic has caused us to pause and rethink our plans, but whilst the world has changed, the crisis has shown that our ten ideas set out in our Economic Growth Plan are the right ones and consequently they form the basis for our renew plan.

Idea 1: Free trade zone and port development

Idea 2: Grow the manufacturing and engineering supply chain hub

Idea 3: Supporting growth and diversification of the Humber chemical and energy cluster

Idea 4: Improved connectivity east to west

Idea 5: Transforming connectivity north to south

Idea 6: Overcoming barriers to growth

Idea 7: Lifelong integration of skills and development

Idea 8: University campus North Lincolnshire – providing Higher level skills

Idea 9: Town centre and market town regeneration

Idea 10: Recognition for North Lincolnshire area of outstanding natural beauty

The Covid pandemic and subsequent lockdowns has presented a series of new economic challenges. Some of these will be temporary, but some are likely to be longer lasting. The North Lincolnshire Economic Renew Plan will focus to address the challenges of Covid-19 while also seeking to drive longer term change.

The North Lincolnshire Economic Renew Plan, along with the current Economic Growth Plan, offers North Lincolnshire the opportunity to deliver it's ambitions and realise it's potential.

North Lincolnshire local economy at a glance

% of all in employment aged 16-64 by Broad Industry Group

	North Lincolnshire		Yorkshire and The Humber	England
	2019		2019	2019
	Number	%	%	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1750	2.3	1.4	1.3
Mining and quarrying	225	0.3	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	17000	22.1	11	7.8
Electricity, gas and steam	250	0.3	0.3	0.4
Water supply; sewerage and waste	900	1.2	0.6	0.6
Construction	6000	7.8	5.4	5
Wholesale, retail and motor trades	11000	14.3	15.4	15.1
Transportation and storage	6000	7.8	5.1	5
Accommodation and food services	4000	5.2	6.5	7.5
Information and communication	600	0.8	2.8	4.4
Financial and insurance activities	400	0.5	2.7	3.5
Real estate activities	1000	1.3	2.1	2
Professional, scientific and technical	2500	3.2	6.8	9.2
Administrative and support services	5000	6.5	8.1	8.9
Public administration and defence	2000	2.6	4.2	3.9
Education	5000	6.5	9.1	8.4
Human health and social work	10000	13	13.8	12.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1250	1.6	2.2	2.5
Other service activities	1500	1.9	2.2	2.1

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey : open access, 2019

Active Enterprises – Business Count

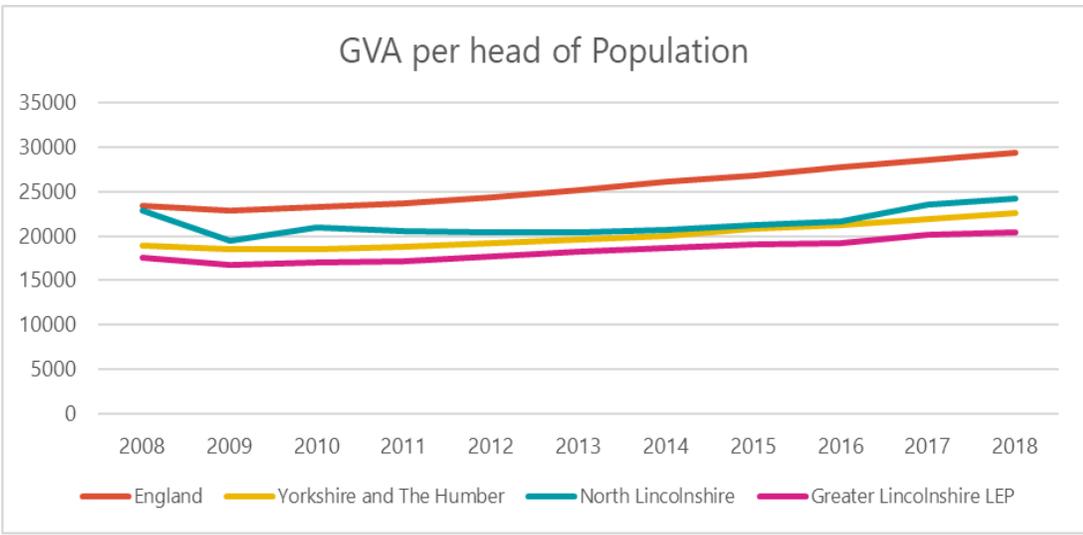
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	5 yr Change (no)	5 yr Change (%)
North Lincolnshire	5335	5555	5535	5585	5700	+365	+6.8%

Source: ONS business demography, 2020

GVA

£m	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Annual Change
North Lincolnshire	3512	3606	3708	4028	4170	+3.5%

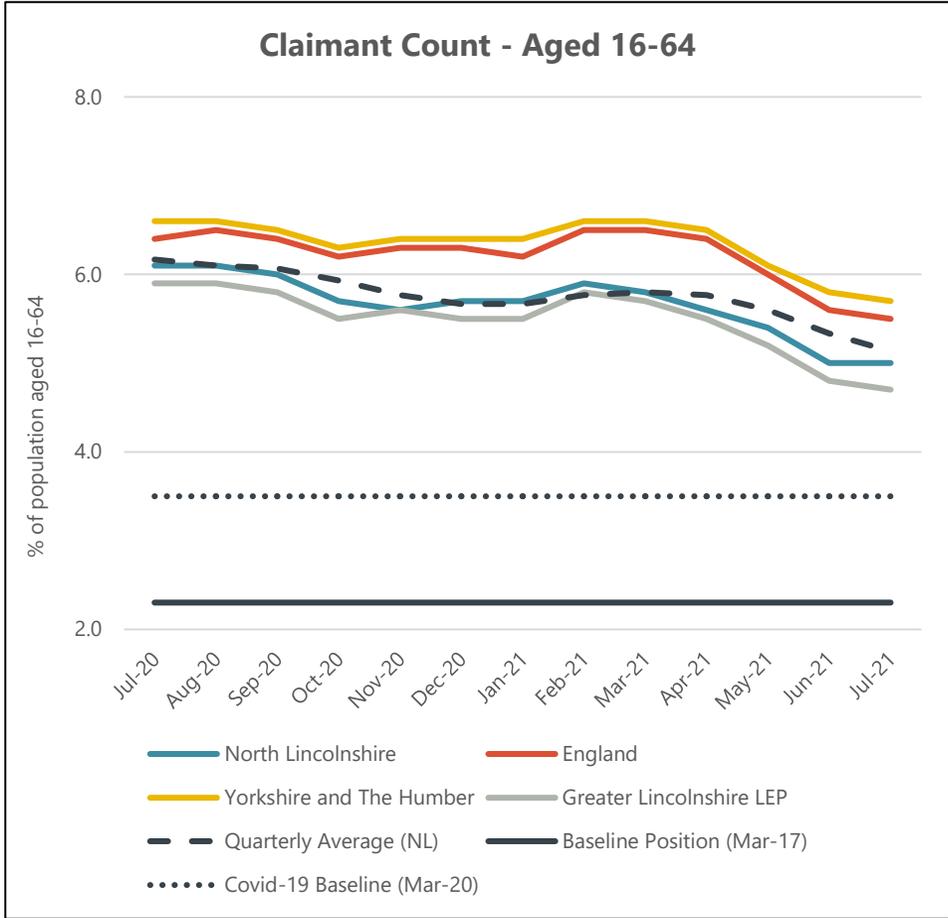
Source: ONS, GVA - Regional gross value added (balanced) per head and income components



Source: ONS, GVA

Current situation – August 2021

- At the time of writing this report it has been over 16 months since the country was put into the first coronavirus lockdown.
- The biggest impact to businesses from coronavirus (Covid-19) were the restrictions put in place regarding opening and social distancing.
- Businesses have been supported via a number of government initiatives including small business grants; retail, hospitality and leisure grants and local authority discretionary grant funds issued by the local authority.
- Although many business surveys have been undertaken, measuring the local impact of Covid-19 is problematic, particularly due to the gaps between gathering statistics and publishing their findings.
- Claimant count data shows a massive increase locally in people claiming out of work benefits - an increase from 3,600 in March 2020 to 5,140 in July 2021. Albeit a fall since the May 2020 figure of 6,560.
- Up until the end of June 2020, 21,700 of North Lincolnshire's workers were supported by the government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS). At the end of June 2021, CJRS helped support 3,400 jobs. The scheme, known as 'furlough', remains open until September 2021.
- On 22 February 2021 the Prime Minister announced the government's roadmap to cautiously ease lockdown restrictions in England. The roadmap outlined four steps for easing restrictions.
- On the 19 July Government announced to move to step 4 of the roadmap, a phase of continued caution whilst managing the risks of Covid-19.
- Additionally, the UK formally left the EU on 31 January 2020. At that point a transition period began that ended on 31 December 2020.



Source: Nomis claimant count

North Lincolnshire Economic Renew Plan 2021 – 2023

Plan on a page

Council ambition	#BestPlace – live, work, visit, invest			
Council Priorities	Enabling Economic Growth and Renewal		Keeping People Safe and Well	
Council Outcomes	Safe	Well	Prosperous	Connected
Council Goals (the way we do business)	Enabling	Commercial	Progressive	Sustainable
Economic Renew Plan Vision	In 2 years time, the North Lincolnshire economy will have transformed and will have played a key role in supporting the local and national recovery to the covid-19 pandemic through diversification; decarbonisation and clean growth; supporting people and jobs; and, delivery of transformation projects which change the trajectory of the area.			
Economic Renew Plan Principles	Protect and enable the local economy Enable better outcomes for the people and place of North Lincolnshire			
Economic Renew Priorities	Priority 1 - Protect the economy through strengthened business support Priority 2 - Enable the creation and safeguarding of jobs Priority 3 - Stimulate growth through capital investment and infrastructure Priority 4 - A better quality of life for residents Priority 5 - Progress sector specific programmes			
Measures of Success	Economic sustainability and future growth Reduced carbon emissions Increased employment Improved skills Reduced number of people claiming out of work benefits Better physical and mental health outcomes Increased levels of infrastructure funding Regenerated town centres New homes Better connectivity Digital Place			

Priority 1 – Protect the economy via strengthen business support

Enabling access to grants and funding

- Information Advice and Guidance is easily available for businesses on access to finance
- Support businesses with local restriction grants for those affected by restrictions

Impact:

- Businesses have access to finance to support their business needs in the short and longer term
- North Lincolnshire maximises available funding to support the council's priorities

Increasing access to Information, Advice and Guidance

- Information, Advice and Guidance is easily available and accessible for businesses

Impact:

- Increased information available for business in a timely manner

Enabling a digital economy

- Moving towards a more digital council and digital place.
- Creation of a digital front door for business to interact with the council.
- Understanding data and analytics for business

Impact:

- Creating a digital place
- Modern, digitally enabled service delivery
- Continued delivery of digital infrastructure
- Businesses and resident take-up of better broadband connectivity speeds
- Growth of digital sector in North Lincolnshire
- A smart, connected and data rich place that enables the economy to prosper

Priority 2 – Enable the creation and safeguarding of jobs

Enabling business capacity and growth

- To deliver a partnership-based approach to support inclusive growth, increased employment and economic activity
- Support job creation through schemes such as Kick-start

Impact:

- Increased employment levels
- Reduction of the gap between our most and least deprived communities
- Better health outcomes for individuals
- Support re-entry/progression/people into the labour market

Enabling workforce progression

- Re-skilling of the local population to better align with and meet the skills gaps of the post-covid economy and continue to promote and enable a highly skilled workforce
- Developing a skilled workforce to support a digital economy

Impact:

- Increased employment
- Supporting post-covid economic recovery by supplying local workforce with necessary skills
- Support for key growth sectors and shift to clean growth
- Enhanced inward investment opportunities
- Increased digital skills and capacity

Stimulating inward investment and new business start ups

- Increase inward investment and number of new businesses start-ups in the area to support economic recovery

Impact:

- Growth in local economy
- Increase in jobs
- New business starts up in North Lincolnshire
- Increase in GVA
- Increase in NNDR

Priority 3 – Stimulate growth through capital investment

Securing capital investment to enable regeneration

- Secure funding for investment in the regeneration of our places

Impact:

- Best place to live work and visit
- A diverse economy
- Increased confidence in the area
- Clean growth
- Regeneration through the Towns Fund
- Regeneration through the Future High Streets Fund
- Regeneration through the Community Renewal Fund
- Economic prosperity through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Enabling and securing capital investment in infrastructure

- Capital infrastructure projects stimulating economic activity

Impact:

- A diverse economy
- Higher value jobs
- Increased productivity
- Increased confidence in the area
- Improved digital connectivity
- Clean growth
- Seeking support through the Levelling Up Fund
- A digital place

Embedding and progressing decarbonisation and clean growth

- Support the long-term sustainability of our major industries through decarbonisation
- Develop the skills of the current and future workforce to meet the needs of the Clean Growth Agenda
- Attract new businesses and enable new business start ups around clean growth

Impact:

- Boosting long term resilience of operations
- Year on year reduction in carbon emissions
- Year on year growth of businesses and GVA in North Lincolnshire supporting clean growth

Priority 4 - A better quality of life for residents

Enabling access to cleaner, greener and safer space

- Have high quality, accessible, welcoming open space, that is safe for people to enjoy and use and meets the needs of current and future generations

Impact:

- Best place to live work and visit
- Access to facilities
- People feel safe and protected in their community
- Increased participation in sport and exercise
- Mitigated effects of climate change

Improving health and wellbeing across our communities

- Support people in their wellbeing through trusted sources of information, advice and guidance.
- Providing information and advice on maintaining physical and mental wellbeing.

Impact:

- A better quality of life for residents
- People can live well for longer
- Improved physical and mental wellbeing
- More people enabled to return to work
- Integrated Health, Innovation and Emergency Services Hub

Strengthening inclusion and address health inequalities

- Work in a coordinated way to recognise and address the wider determinants of health, such as housing, employment, education and skills and income.
- Effective communications and engagement to ensure equal access to advice, guidance, services and support
- Recognising and reducing digital exclusion

Impact:

- Reduced inequalities
- Better population health outcomes
- Enhanced well-being of the resident population
- Developing our People and Communities

Priority 5 - Progress Sector Specific Programmes

Visitor Economy

- Building confidence for visitors to return to North Lincolnshire
- Visitor economy businesses have confidence to operate safely and within guidelines
- North Lincolnshire provides a safe environment for visitors
- Safeguard visitor economy businesses and maintain survival rates

Impact:

- Build confidence in visitors returning to North Lincolnshire
- North Lincolnshire – Best Place to visit
- Recognition and reinforcement of quality of place in North Lincolnshire
- Enhanced well-being of the resident population
- Development of Scunthorpe’s Cultural, Arts and Heritage Offer

Retail

- Build confidence for the retail sector to maintain business activities safely and within guidelines
- Stimulate economic activity through restarting of the retail sector

Impact:

- Stimulate the economy
- Recognition and reinforcement of the place of North Lincolnshire

Construction and House Building

- Ensure strong housing completion rates for North Lincolnshire

Impact:

- Housing delivery plays a key role in enabling and accelerating recovery of the local economy
- Policies in place to ensure housing delivery meets local needs
- Strong housing market
- Delivery of 396 new homes per annum
- Transforming Scunthorpe Housing Market

Transportation, Ports and Logistics

- Better connectivity and investment in infrastructure to support economic recovery and renewal and support the clean growth agenda
- Delivery of a Humber Freeport

Impact:

- Humber Freeport
- Adding value at our ports
- Increased jobs
- Increased active travel
- Putting passengers first
- Growing passenger confidence in using public transport
- Transport supporting the decarbonisation agenda
- Integrated Transport
- Sustainable transport to enhance economic growth

Manufacturing (advanced manufacturing)

- Diversification, innovation and added value to the manufacturing and engineering sector to improve competitiveness and productivity

Impact:

- Advanced Manufacturing Park
- Delivering over 2,000 acres of integrated supply chain hub
- Recognition and reinforcement of the place of North Lincolnshire
- Sustainable sector
- Additional jobs
- Increase in manufacturing innovation, research and development
- Increase in productivity

Food

- Investment in productivity, capacity, skills and knowledge to drive an increase in high value food sales to UK and export markets

Impact:

- A key sector for the sub-region
- Increased exports
- Meeting the needs of the UK market
- Sustainable workforce
- Improved production efficiency

Energy

- To use the energy sector to help drive a green economic recovery

Impact:

- Increased energy productivity and reduced costs
- High value clean growth jobs
- Energy efficient buildings and homes
- Exploration of green private wire

Relationship between the Economic Growth Plan and the Economic Renew Plan

