



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND

East of England RSS Review / East of England Plan

East of England Rural Forum,
12 June 2008



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East of England Plan

The Revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England.



May 2008



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East of England RSS Review

- Key milestone in planning for the East of England, embeds sustainable growth in the statutory planning system
- 15 year vision to tackle climate change, address housing shortages and strengthen the region's economy
- Local Development Documents must comply with RSS



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East of England RSS Review

- Benchmark in reconciling growth and sustainability. Growth and living within environmental limits **joint imperatives**
- Based on rigorous public consultation and independent examination



How we got here...

- 2002 – Regional Assembly begins work
- Dec 04 - Draft submitted to Secretary of State
- Nov 05 to March 06 – Examination in Public
- June 06 – Panel Report
- Dec 06 - Secretary of State consults on Proposed Changes - 19,800 responses



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How we got here...

- Summer 2007 - additional Habitats Directive work
- Oct 2007 – Secretary of State consults on Further Proposed Changes – 9,200 responses





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Informed by

- Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Habitats Directive Assessment
- EERA work on waste
- Highways Agency and Department for Transport work on the implications for the road and rail networks
- Environment Agency work on sewerage infrastructure and impacts on water quality



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Reflects the Proposed Changes

- 508,000 homes –
25,400 a year
- But 26,830 2006 to
2021 given
completions 01-06

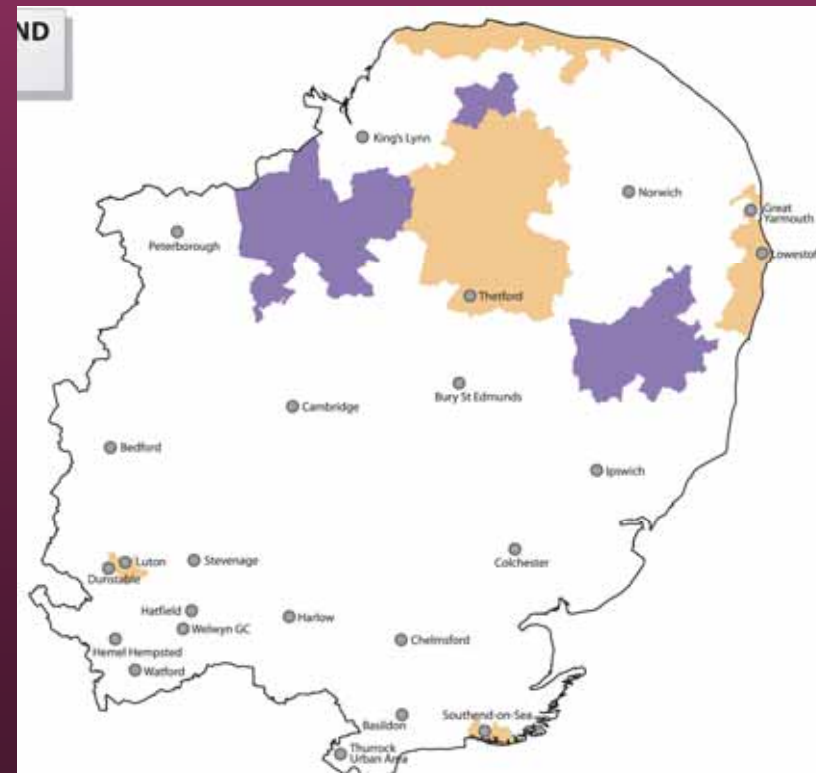




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The Key Centres

- Development focussed on 21 main towns, economic drivers of surrounding areas and most sustainable locations for growth





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Growth and environmental limits Joint Imperatives

- Water – raising efficiency, lower consumption
- Sewerage – addressing capacity and clean rivers
- Waste – more recycling, less landfill
- Green infrastructure – new green spaces, more and better green belt
- Biodiversity – avoiding impacts on European sites
- Low-carbon development encouraged



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A step change in housing growth

- Stronger emphasis on housing targets as minima
- 35% affordable housing target - higher in stressed areas
- Planned completions still less than household growth needed to address affordability
- Will examine the region's capacity to accommodate higher growth looking at the most sustainable options, including new towns



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Delivering the Plan policies

- Local authorities through Local Development Documents – working to agreed timescales
- Delivery partnerships to drive implementation (Regional Housing, Transport Forums, Sustainable Communities Delivery Group, Regional Water Partnership)



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Delivering the Plan policies

- Local Delivery Vehicles & Partnerships
- EERA implementation schedule & monitoring framework
- EERA & EEDA developing joint implementation plan for RSS and the Regional Economic Strategy



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Looking forward (2011-2031)

- Regional Economic Strategy nearing its adoption
- Immediate Partial Review to 'roll forward' East of England Plan to 2031 - ambitious target date of 2011
- Will examine region's further capacity to deliver latest projections of population and household growth





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Looking forward (2011-2031)

- National Housing and Planning Advice Unit housing ranges
- Eco-town programme
- Sub-National Review implications – EEDA to become Regional Planning Body, supported by local authorities working through LA forum



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Any questions?

