

Relationship between West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, incorporating Phase 1. Black Country sub regional plan (the West Midlands Plan) and the West Midlands Regional Economic Strategy

The former West Midlands Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and former Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), known as the West Midlands Plan now form the Regional Strategy for the West Midlands. More information on the RES and RSS are presented in Section 2.3 of the Environmental Report.

The following table maps the vision, targets, priorities, implementation priorities and growth areas of the former RES for the West Midlands onto the policies of the former RSS for the West Midlands.

The mapping demonstrates that the RES and RSS are inextricable linked and that the spatial expression of the RES ambitions (in other words, the physical effects of implementing the RES vision, targets and priorities) have been comprehensively assessed through the assessment of the environmental effects of the RSS policies against the requirements of the SEA Directive.

The comment column highlights the links to the assessment in **Appendix D**.

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Mapping of RES Vision, Targets and Priorities to RSS Policies

RES Strategic Objective	RES Priority	RES Focus	RSS Policy No. & Title	Comments and coverage in SEA
<p>RES Vision</p> <p>This Strategy sets an ambitious vision for the West Midlands:</p> <p><i>‘To be a global centre where people and businesses choose to connect.’</i></p> <p>We want the West Midlands to maintain and enhance its attractiveness as a location in which people and businesses choose to invest, work, learn, visit and live. That means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - becoming a more prosperous Region, but recognising that economic growth must support overall improvements in the quality of life and wellbeing of all the Region’s residents; - becoming a more cosmopolitan and inclusive Region, making full use of the skills and talents, of our people and ensuring equality of opportunity, across the Region, in relation to the wealth and prosperity generated through continued economic growth; - becoming a more sustainable Region, correctly valuing our natural, historic and cultural assets, seeking to minimise our use of the planet’s resources and preparing for a low-carbon future. <p>We need to measure progress towards achieving our vision. Our headline focus is on closing the gap between the performance of the West Midlands and that of the UK as a whole. We will measure progress by tracking GVA2 per head in the Region compared with the UK average. If we performed at the UK average today, our economy would be around £10</p>			<p>RSS vision</p> <p>The broad view of where the West Midlands should aim to be over the coming decades was established early in the RPG review process as:</p> <p>“The overall vision for the West Midlands is one of an economically successful, outward looking and adaptable Region, which is rich in culture and environment, where all people, working together, are able to meet their aspirations and needs without prejudicing the quality of life of future generations.”</p> <p>The Vision incorporates the key theme within the Brundtland Report definition of sustainable development; that is meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.</p>	<p>The vision complements the RES expanding on the initial statement in the West Midlands Regional Strategy to realise the economic potential of the Region. The RES published in 2006; has a time horizon which extends beyond the Regional Strategy in its current form, which was undergoing a phased revision, Phase 1 has been completed and Phase 2 and Phase 3 were still undergoing revision, when work on the Regional Strategy stopped in May 2010. The SEA intentionally seeks to set the very long term framework for growth in the West Midlands complementing the existing and emerging Regional Strategy for the Region.</p> <p>The vision is reflected through the key Regional Strategy policies on sustainable</p>

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<p>billion richer. We want to close this 'output gap'.</p> <p>But we do not seek economic growth at any cost. Growth must contribute to improvements in quality of life whilst respecting environmental limits.</p>			<p>Specifically the Vision looks forward to a Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) where there are opportunities for all to progress and improve their quality of life; b) with an advanced, thriving and diverse economy occupying a competitive position within Europe and World markets; c) where urban and rural renaissance is successfully being achieved; d) with diverse and distinctive cities, towns, sub regions and communities with Birmingham as a "World City" at its heart; e) which is recognised for its distinctive, high quality natural and built environment; f) with an efficient network of integrated transport facilities and services which meet the needs of both individuals and the business community in the most sustainable way; and g) where all Regional interests are working together towards a 	<p>development, spatial strategy, job growth, clusters, housing, green infrastructure, biodiversity and natural heritage. These are assessed individually and on a cumulatively basis within Appendix D, E and in Section 4 of the West Midlands Environmental Report.</p>

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			community agreed sustainable future.	
Business, RES Strategic Objective	Business, RES Priority	Business, RES Focus		
Seizing Market Opportunities Improving Competitiveness Harnessing Knowledge	Priority 1. Developing markets and sectors with most wealth and employment potential	Develop the Region's priority markets and sectors, building on its particular strengths in both manufacturing and services, through a clustering and related market exploitation programme.	RSS Policy UR1 Implementing Urban Renaissance – the MUAs RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All	The RES under the heading Business identifies 8 priorities which seek to promote the sustainable development of the West Midlands economy. The RES seeks to increase the number of people in work in sectors of the West Midlands economy with the most wealth and employment generating potential. These policy ambitions are broadly reflected in policies UR1, UR4, PA1.
	Priority 2. Competing in the Global Economy	Increase the value of international trade carried out by West Midlands businesses, expand the number of businesses succeeding in overseas markets and generate a stronger flow on inward	RSS Policy UR1 Implementing Urban Renaissance – the MUAs RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All	Policies UR1, UR4, PA1: In effect set out the overall spatial strategy to ensure new development contributes towards the creation of more sustainable communities and, in particular, require that new development contributes to improving quality of life,

RSS Policy T1 Developing accessibility and mobility within the Region to support the Spatial

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		investment to the Region.	Strategy	community cohesion and social inclusion... particularly in areas of new development and priority areas for regeneration.
	Priority 3. Creating economically sustainable new businesses	Drive up the creation, growth and survival of economically sustainable and competitive new businesses (including social enterprise), particularly high-growth companies and new enterprises from under-presented groups and communities. This will require innovative approaches recognising that the definition of business needs to be flexible enough to capture a wide range of models and recognising the role of the voluntary and community sector.	RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure	Again policies UR1, UR1A, UR2, UR3, RR1, RR2, PA1, PA2, PA5 and PA14 identify the priority areas for regeneration. These are either areas of weak economic performance or deprivation. The policy requires that LPAs tackle the problems of economic, social and environmental deprivation in these areas. Regeneration and addressing areas of deprivation is also addressed in sub-Regional policies such as UR1A, UR1B, URC1, UR1D and PA11A which made up the Phase 1 revision to the West Midlands Regional Strategy covering the Black Country sub region. The RES also seeks to promote the West Midlands competitive advantage in the

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RES Strategic Objective	RES Priority	RES Focus	RSS Policy No. & Title	Comments and coverage in SEA
				global economy by encouraging the expansion of the knowledge economy and value added economic activities in the Region. Policies PA3, PA4, PA12 in particular seek to support research based, high technology, value added economic activity which offer sustainable, good quality employment opportunities.
	<p>Priority 4. Capitalising on sustainability and low-carbon opportunities</p>	<p>Stimulate a proactive and ambitious business response to the economic opportunities of the low-carbon agenda by exploiting new markets and ways of working, and by responding ambitiously to the challenges of energy and resources efficiency and climate change adaptation.</p>	<p>RSS Policy EN1 Energy Generation RSS Policy EN2 Energy Conservation</p>	<p>Again policy EN2 of the Regional Strategy promotes a sustainable and low-carbon approach to energy generation.</p>
	<p>Priority 5. Investing in business processes and enterprise</p>	<p>Drive up productivity by boosting levels of process and product</p>	<p>RSS Policy PA3 High-Technology Corridors</p>	<p>The positive effects of growth on employment, skills and society are reflected in the</p>

RSS Policy PA4 Development

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		effectiveness and innovation, quality design, ICT adoption, supply-chain and inter-firm collaboration and market-facing enterprise. These processes need streamlined business support services that are simply to access so they become hallmarks of the West Midlands economy.	related to Higher/Further Education and Research Establishments and incubator units	assessments of the retention of these policies, in particular the likely significant effects on population (see Appendix E, Population Topic). Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
	Priority 6. Stimulating employer investment in skills and training	Increase employer investment in training and skills development whilst raising employer awareness of the business case for workforce development.	RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure	The positive effects of growth on employment, skills and society are reflected in the assessments of the retention of these policies, in particular the likely significant effects on population (see Appendix E, Population Topic). Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
	Priority 7. Investing in high-value skills for the future economy	Increase the number of people with graduate-level skills employed in the West Midlands	RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All RSS Policy UR4 Social	The positive effects of growth on employment, skills and society are reflected in the assessments of the retention

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		economy by up-skilling the current workforce and recruiting and retaining more people with the skills needed to develop and deliver higher value added products and service.	Infrastructure	of these policies, in particular the likely significant effects on population (see Appendix E, Population Topic). Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
	Priority 8. Stimulating innovation, creativity and knowledge generation	Taking the West Midlands to the forefront of intellectual property development and drive forward the commercialisation of technical and non-technical knowledge and creativity within the Region's research institutions, the public sector and business.	RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All RSS Policy PA3 High - Technology Corridors RSS Policy PA4 Development related to Higher/Further Education and Research Establishments and incubator units	The positive effects of growth on employment, skills and society are reflected in the assessments of the retention of these policies, in particular the likely significant effects on population (see Appendix E, Population Topic). Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
Place, RES Strategic Objectives	Place, RES Priority	Place, RES Focus		Under the RES heading Places sets 7 priorities again to support the sustainable growth of the Region's economy, these priorities in the RES have the greatest "spatial expression" and hence synergy with policies in the

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				West Midlands Regional Strategy.
Increasing Birmingham's competitiveness Improving Infrastructure Sustainable Communities	Priority 1. Birmingham competing as a global city	Promote Birmingham to encourage investment and development and improve its competitive standing as a global city and asset for the Region as a whole.	RSS Policy UR1 Implementing Urban Renaissance – the MUAs RSS Policy PA11 The Network of Towns and City Centres RSS Policy PA12 Birmingham's Role as World City	Under priority 1, the RES notes that, Birmingham's status is that of a global city and therefore new physical and economic development located in Birmingham is essential so as to secure sustainable economic growth within the West Midlands. This priority is reflected in policy PA12, which illustrates that in Birmingham the quality, adaptability and appropriate delivery and phasing of development is key, so as to enhance the City's global status.
	Priority 2. Improving transport and communications to increase accessibility efficiency and competitiveness	Enables business and people to access markets, opportunities, jobs and services by improving the efficiency, reliability and capacity of the Region's transport and communications	RSS Policy T1 Developing accessibility and mobility within the Region to support the Spatial Strategy RSS Policy T5 Public Transport RSS Policy T8 Demand Management RSS Policy T9 The Management	Under priority 2, the RES identifies that new investment is required to enable the West Midlands transport system to support the planned increase in population, housing, employment and economic growth over the life of the Regional Strategy.

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		<p>networks. This will mean making the best use of existing networks, increasing the availability of public transport for example, and maximising the use of technology and new infrastructure where required and appropriate. This will not only improve internal and external connections, but will help the Region achieve its aim to be more efficient in its resource use.</p>	<p>and Development of National and Regional Transport Networks RSS Policy T10 Freight RSS Policy T11 Airports RSS Policy T12 Priorities for Investment</p>	<p>Transport policies T1, T5, T9 and T12 addresses transport investment priorities and states that investment programmes should be regularly reviewed to ensure they deliver the infrastructure and services necessary to support the Regional Strategy. It identifies a number of locations and transport corridors which it considers requires further work to develop the evidence to establish interventions to address any problems. Partnership working, such as through multi-agency transportation boards are encouraged.</p> <p>Policies T9 and T10 gives priority to the efficient and sustainable movement of freight, maximising the proportion of freight carried by rail and water where those are the most efficient modes.</p> <p>Policy T1 concerns the access to the ports outside the land locked West Midlands which</p>

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				<p>should be managed and enhanced to support their development and enable them to contribute to national and Regional objectives for economic growth and regeneration.</p> <p>The assessments in Appendix D record the beneficial effects of such policies on population, the economy and improvements in air quality where modal shifts occur. Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.</p>
	<p>Priority 3. Sustainable management and utilisation of our land and property assets</p>	<p>Ensure an appropriate supply of employment land and premises which accords with the Region's economic, environmental and spatial priorities as well as meeting the needs of business and communities.</p>	<p>RSS Policy T12 Priorities for Investment</p> <p>RSS Policy UR1B Housing and Employment Land</p> <p>RSS Policy PA2 Urban Regeneration Zones</p> <p>RSS Policy PA5 Employment Areas in Need of Modernisation and Renewal</p> <p>RSS Policy PA6 Portfolio of Employment Land</p>	<p>Priority 3 in the RES looks to build on a supportive policy framework for resource efficiency in the area of the management and utilisation of land and property. This has a direct reflection in Regional Strategy policies URB1, PA2, PA5, PA6 and PA7, that development should promote resource efficiency and more sustainable construction, including maximum use of re-used or recycled materials and</p>

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			RSS Policy PA7 Regional Investment Sites RSS Policy PA8 Major Investment Sites	of local and traditional materials. Achieving quality of the built environment is one of the core principles of the planning system, and if delivered as planned should provide benefits across all the SEA criteria by mitigating to an extent the adverse environmental effects of development (see Appendix D, E and the main report). The Regional Strategy seeks to meet to reduce climate change emissions by ensuring that new development should be located and designed to optimise its carbon performance.
	Priority 4. Supporting a secure, low-carbon energy infrastructure for the Region	Encourage more efficient use of resources and promote economic growth through the secure development, production and efficient use of our energy	RSS Policy EN1 Energy Generation RSS Policy EN2 Energy Conservation	The RES priority 4 reflects the Region's need to continue to maximise its potential in the wind, bio-renewables and on-site renewables arenas. The benefits against climatic factors, population and human health in the longer term through increased security of

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		infrastructure.		supply are reflected in the SEA (Appendix D, E and Section 4 of the main Environmental Report). Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
	Priority 5. Developing sustainable communities	Encourage a network of high-quality, attractive and sustainable urban and rural communities which attract and retain a diverse and thriving workforce contributing to, and prospering from, the Region's growing economy as well as having access to necessary amenities and a good quality life.	RSS Policy UR1 Implementing Urban Renaissance – the MUAs RSS Policy RR1 Rural Renaissance RSS Policy RR3 Market Towns RSS Policy RR4 Rural Services RSS Policy PA11 The Network of Town and City Centres RSS Policy PA14 Economic Development and the Rural Economy	Under priorities 5, 6 and 7, the RES notes that the approach taken to the delivery of new physical development will be key to the Region's future growth. It states that the quality, adaptability and appropriate delivery and phasing of development is key so as to deliver sustainable communities, regenerate the Region's most deprived communities and improve the quality of life by maximising the cultural offer and natural assets of the West Midlands. The Regional Strategy policies UR1, UR1A, UR3, UR4, RR1, PA1, QE1 and T1 set out the key strategy and overall framework for development in the Region. It is the spatial expression of the RES

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RES Strategic Objective	RES Priority	RES Focus	RSS Policy No. & Title	Comments and coverage in SEA
				requirements.
	<p>Priority 6. Regenerating our most deprived communities</p>	<p>Regenerating and support the sustainable development and growth of our most deprived areas, developing links with economic and employment opportunity and bolstering cohesion. Our aim is not to deliver short-term benefits but to plan interventions that meet the regeneration challenge and achieve long-term economic goals.</p>	<p>RSS Policy UR1 Implementing Urban Renaissance – the MUAs RSS Policy UR1A Black Country Regeneration Policies RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All RSS Policy PA2 Urban Regeneration Zones RSS Policy PA10 Tourism and Culture</p>	<p>Policies UR1 and PA1 draws key sustainable development principles together to allow the West Midlands to accommodate higher levels of growth in sustainable ways. Housing provision is addressed through CF1, CF2, CF3, CF4, CF5 and CF6. Whilst policies to support employment are set out in policies PA5, PA6, PA14 and PA10 promotes the Region’s cultural infrastructure as well as the West Midlands as a tourist destination.</p>
	<p>Priority 7. Maximising our cultural offer and natural assets</p>	<p>Accelerate the attraction, relocation and retention of visitors, people and businesses to the Region by promoting our high quality of life and strong heritage, natural environment and</p>	<p>RSS Policy QE1 Conserving and Enhancing the Environment RSS Policy QE2 Restoring degraded areas and managing and creating high quality new environments RSS Policy QE3 Creating a high quality built environment for all</p>	<p>Policy QE5 concerns the protection and enhancement of the Region’s historic environment policy QE9 addresses issues concerning flooding and water management. Whilst policies QE1, QE2, QE3, QE4, QE6, QE7 and QE8 concern the protection, management and</p>

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		cultural offer, as well as our tourism and rural assets, to maximise benefits for the Region as a whole.	RSS Policy QE4 Greenery, Urban Greenspace and Public Spaces RSS Policy QE5 Protection and enhancement of the Historic Environment RSS Policy QE6 The conservation, enhancement and restoration of the Region's landscape	enhancement of the natural environment of the West Midlands. The environmental effects of these policies have been assessed in Appendix D which acknowledge the significant benefits to the population and also identify the environmental consequences. Appendix D also contains the assessment of revocation.
People, RES Strategic Objectives	People, RES Priority	People, RES Focus		
Sustainable Living Raising Ambitions and Aspirations Achieving Full Potential and Opportunities for All	Priority 1. Changing attitudes to sustainability and consumption	Encourage and help people at home and at work to shift choices and patterns of consumption, procurement, and travel and take advantage of goods and services which are sustainable into the longer term.	RSS Policy T2 Reducing the need to travel RSS Policy T3 Walking and cycling RSS Policy T4 Promoting travel awareness	RES priorities 2 to 5 under the section headed People largely centre around building up the West Midlands social capital in terms of promoting skills and high quality employment opportunities as well as raising the aspirations of leaders and managers within the Region's economy to deliver these ambitions.
	Priority 2. Raising aspirations of leaders	Ensure that the Region has the highest-quality	RSS Policy UR4 Social	The RES identifies that while prosperity has increased in the

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	and managers	leaders and managers who are able to inspire people to drive innovation, enterprise and productivity and make the most of their skills and talents.	Infrastructure	West Midlands over the past years the outcomes for those at different earnings levels has varied greatly. Growing inequality could exacerbate social exclusion. The RES seeks to address this issue through improving the skills of the workforce which will enable suitable qualified people to access better quality employment opportunities in the Region, which will also result in an increase in incomes of people in the Region, helping to challenge social exclusion.
	Priority 3. Driving up ambition and aspiration	Create a culture of employment, enterprise and learning throughout the Region; remove barriers that prevent investment in skills, raise aspirations and ambitions for skills, employment and continuous personal development that needs personal development that meets the growing	RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure	These requirements are reflected in PA3, PA4, PA5, PA6, PA7 and PA8 which aims to provide employment sites of sufficient range, quantity and quality to cater for relevant employment sectors ...and to provide appropriately for identified needs for skills-training and education.

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		demands of the economy and inspires all young people and adults to grow and make the best of their talents and opportunities.		
	Priority 4. Skills for employment and enterprise	Increase levels of employment in higher value added jobs and reduce economic inactivity – particularly in the Region’s aspirations have been raised, and barriers removed, they are better able to gain the skills they need for employment and progression to the higher value added jobs of the future.	RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure	<p>Similarly Regional Strategy policies UR1A, UR1B and UR1C concern the provision of employment land in the Black Country and close to the Birmingham conurbation that seeks to take advantage, or contributes to the development of, particular locally based skills and expertise to be found in the Black Country sub region.</p> <p>Again policies UR1, RR1 and PA1 offer overall Regional Strategy policies covering the West Midlands which ensure new development contributes towards the creation of more sustainable communities and, in particular, require that new development contributes to improving quality of life,</p>

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				<p>community cohesion and social inclusion... particularly in areas of new development and priority areas for regeneration.</p> <p>Further Regional Strategy policies UR1A, RR1, RR2, PA2 and PA14 identify the priority areas for regeneration in the West Midlands. These are either areas of weak economic performance or deprivation. The policy requires that LPAs tackle the problems of economic, social and environmental deprivation in these areas. Regeneration and addressing areas of deprivation is also addressed in sub-Regional policies for the Black Country as illustrated.</p>
	<p>Priority 5. Defining employability</p>	<p>Respond proactively to evolving economic needs and demographic patterns to ensure a strong match between skills requirements and learning opportunities</p>	<p>RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure</p>	<p>The positive effects of growth on employment, skills and society are reflected in the assessments of the retention of these policies, in particular the likely significant effects on population (see Appendix E, Population Topic). Appendix</p>

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		by ensuring that employers articulate their current and future skills needs and make full and effective use of the skills and talents within our diverse and dynamic population.		D also contains the assessment of revocation.
Powerful Voice, RES Strategic Objectives	Powerful Voice, RES Priority	Powerful Voice, RES Focus		
Powerful Voice for the West Midlands	Priority 1. Improving the evidence base for policy	Understand, share and deploy information about the development of the Region to help refine, monitor and evaluate strategy and the implementation of policy.	RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure	RES priorities 1 to 3 under the heading Powerful Voice again address the need for the West Midlands to build its social capital so as to promote the growth of the Region's economy by improving its evidence base to inform policy making, working positively in partnerships again to promote the Region's profile and hence growth by positively participating in UK, European and international partnerships. None of these actions have a spatial dimension and hence are only reflected in Regional Strategy policy UR4 Social
	Priority 2. Engaging with UK, European and International decision-makers	Pursue effective engagement with, and seek to influence, decision-makers in business, government, and other organisations at national and international levels to		

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		benefit the Region.		Infrastructure and securing Birmingham as a city with a global profile as set out in Regional Strategy policy PA12 Birmingham's Role as a World City.
	Priority 3. Position the West Midlands as a global centre where people and business choose to connect	Develop and implement a strategy to promote the Region and attract and retain potential new investors, businesses, visitors, students and residents.		
Focus on Delivery, RES Strategic Objectives	Focus on Delivery, RES Priority	Focus on Delivery, RES Focus		
The West Midlands RES seeks to secure sustainable communities through policies which support the urban and rural renaissance.	Areas of multiple market failure:	The Regeneration Zones, which represent concentrations of deprivation and disadvantage and include 84% of our most deprived areas – remain the areas of greatest need on which we should focus our efforts.	RSS Policy RR2 The Rural Regeneration Zone RSS Policy PA2 Urban Regeneration Zones RSS Policy PA3 High-Technology Corridors	This section headed Focus on Delivery of the SEA highlights 5 key policy objectives where there needs to be a focus on delivery so as to improve the Region's economic growth such as the role of Birmingham and the Region's Market Towns for example which have already been considered in Annex H through the analysis of Regional Strategy policies such as PA12 Birmingham's role as a World City and RR3
	Concentrations of knowledge assets:	Including the High Technology Corridors – represent		

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		agglomerations of innovative potential to support the diversification of our economy into higher value added sectors.		Market Towns.
	Role of Birmingham:	As the major economic driver within the West Midlands economy.	RSS Policy PA12 Birmingham's Role as a World City	
	Role of the Region's Market Towns:	Market towns throughout the Region act as important centres within the rural economy.	RSS Policy RR3 Market Towns	
	Locations facing economic change or responding to opportunity:	Evidence shows that numerous interconnected factors impact on the overall economy and on an area's economic growth and decline.	RSS Policy PA1 Prosperity for All	
Focus on Delivery, RES Strategic Objectives	Focus and Delivery through Partnerships, RES Priority	Focus and Delivery through Partnerships, RES Focus		

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<p>The overall RES strategy can only be delivered in partnership. The West Midlands has a strong record of building effective partnerships.</p>	<p>a) Regional Partnerships</p>	<p>At Regional level, a number of partnerships or boards have been established to help address the most important economic development and regeneration issues.</p>	<p>RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure</p>	<p>Finally the SEA concludes with the section headed Partnerships which highlights the importance of local authorities and all the Region's stakeholders working in partnership to promote the Region's economy at various geographical scales such as at the Regional, sub regional and local levels and also at the international level as already illustrated in the section of the SEA report headed a Powerful Voice.</p> <p>Again none of these priorities have a spatial dimension and hence are only reflected in Regional Strategy policy UR4 Social Infrastructure for example.</p>
	<p>b) Sub regional and Local Partnerships</p>	<p>The role of partnerships is equally vital at sub regional and local levels. Sub regional partnerships often bring together a range of organisations from public, private and third sector.</p>	<p>RSS Policy UR4 Social Infrastructure</p>	
	<p>c) International Partnerships</p>	<p>International trade, exports and inward investment are all important factors in helping the Region to grow.</p>		