

An Overview of Regional Strategies

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partnership working



representation



supporting local government



strategy

The region's strategic partnership

Summary

- Introduction to EERA
- An overview of the main regional strategies
 - What they are about, their current status, opportunities to influence
- Future changes to regional strategies
- Conclusion

East of England Regional Assembly (EERA)

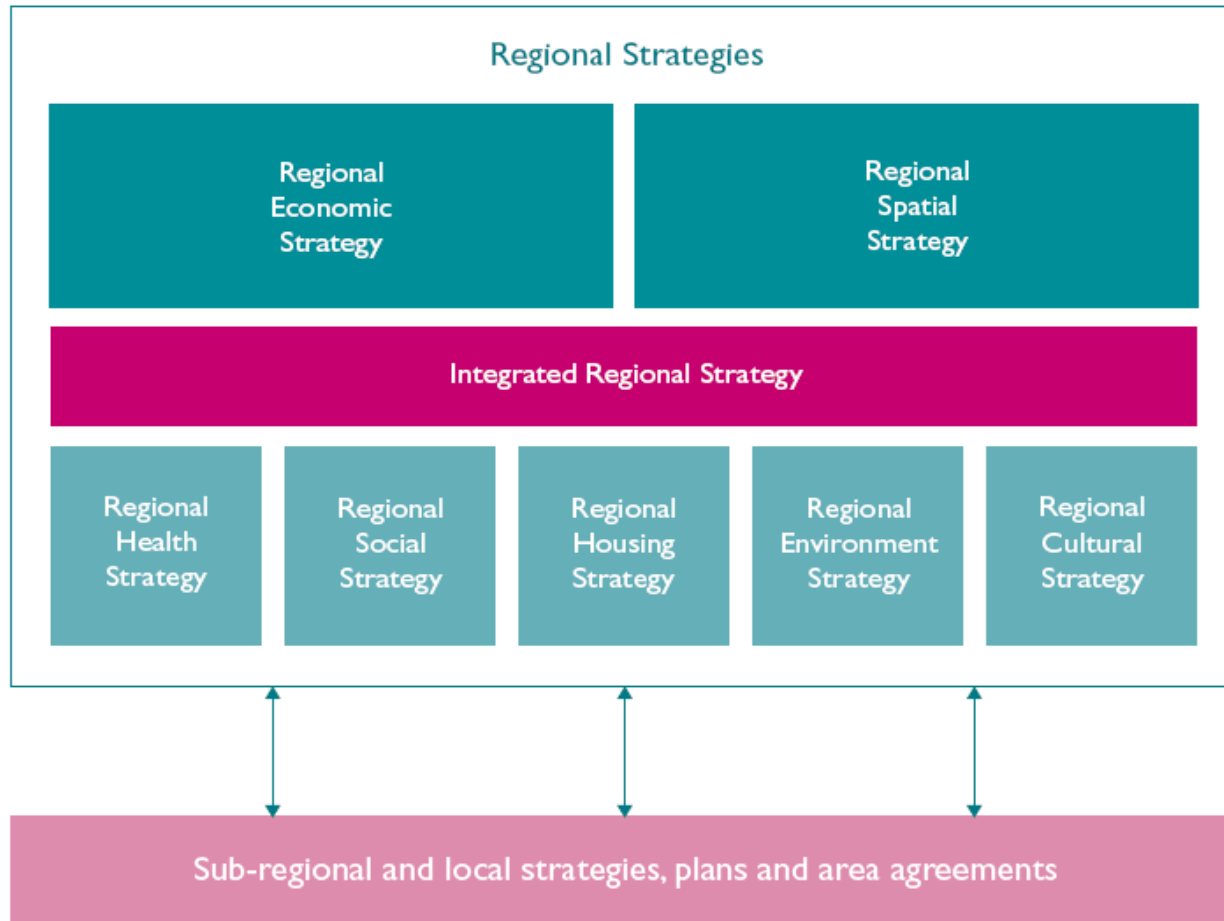
- Since July 2003 EERA combines:
- “Voluntary Regional Chamber” – established 1999
- Regional Local Government Association
- Regional Employers Organisation

EERA (2)

Main functions are:

- Regional Planning and Housing Body
- Scrutinise the work of the Regional Development Agency, EEDA
- Co-ordinate regional strategy and public expenditure activity
- 105 members (54 local gov, 18 apptd reps of political groups, 32 CSOs, 1 Broads Authority)

The main regional strategies



Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS)

- A statement of the regional priorities & challenges for sustainable development
- Purpose - to provide a joined up statement of regional priorities that can inform other regional, sub-regional and local strategies
- RES and RSS important in IRS due to their statutory nature
- Provides regional context for Community Strategies and LAAs

Integrated Regional Strategy (2)

- Under review – consultation ended December 2007
- New IRS will integrate IRS and Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) and will be called the “Integrated Sustainability Framework” (ISF)
- Final Document due October 2008 – awaiting final RES and RSS
- IRS Review Steering group going through consultation responses at present

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

- RSS guides development in the East of England for housing, economic development, the environment, transport, sport and recreation, waste development, mineral extraction
- Led by EERA
- Provides framework for LA development of more detailed plans
- Informs other strategies and plans that have a bearing on land-use activities, including those for economic development, education, health, rural development, housing and culture
- Focuses upon regional and sub-regional planning issues

Regional Spatial Strategy (2)

- Formal consultation in 2005, due to late proposed changes consultation only recently finished. Final document due May 2008
- Now entering a new formal review process – 2008 will see the creation of a project plan
- April – June 2008 there will be the commissioning of the integrated appraisal framework which will include rural proofing.
- July 2008 consultation on project plan and the statement of public participation.
- September 2009 consultation on spatial strategy options
- February 2010 the spatial strategy finalised

Regional Economic Strategy (RES)

- RES vision of economic development with a series of priorities and actions
- Led by EEDA
- 3 overarching ambitions:
 - to increase growth
 - to increase employment rate and ensure more people contribute to and benefit from economic growth
 - to reduce levels of CO₂ emissions, and to accelerate the decoupling of resource use from economic growth

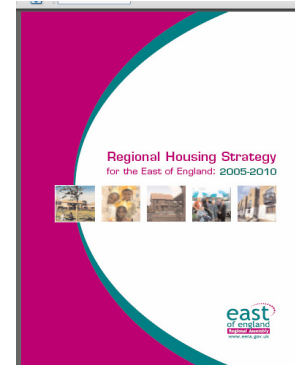
RES (2)

- 5 main themes: 1) the international dimension 2) open innovation and ideas economy 3) low carbon future 4) culture and leadership 5) getting the basics right
- 8 goals for implementation: 1) enhanced business performance 2) innovation 3) digital economy 4) resource efficiency 5) skills 6) inclusion 7) transport 8) sustainable places

RES (3)

- Due for ministerial sign-off June 2008 for launch summer 2008
- Joint RES and RSS implementation plan
- June – July 2008 thematic and regional accountability meetings to discuss implementation - being arranged via East of England Business Group, EEEF, COVER
- Achievement of 8 goals led by partnerships – consider which goals most relevant for influence

Regional Housing Strategy



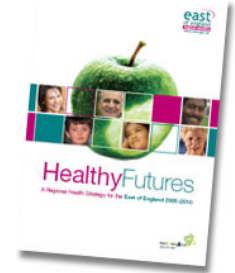
Aim: 'more, sustainable housing provision, in high quality homes and environments, creating inclusive communities'.

- Led by EERA - Regional Housing and Sustainable Communities Panel
- Timeframe 2005 – 2010
- No plans to update RHS awaiting SNR outcome

Regional Housing Strategy (2)

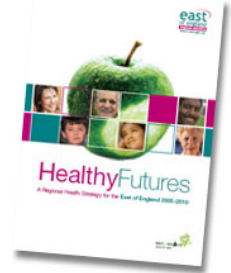
- Coordination on Housing issues: EERA on EERF Housing sub group and EERF on Regional Housing Advisory Group (RHAG) group
- 2008 - RHAG and sub-groups updating action plans (EERF Housing sub group will be notified on any specific rural issues)
- EERF response to Taylor Review (including input from conference of 5th March) will go to RHAG. This will be the main regional response.

Regional Health Strategy



- *Healthy Futures* provides a regional framework of priorities, policies and actions to support local activity to improve health and reduce health inequalities
- It is not the NHS Strategy
- Published 2005 – 2010
- The Strategy enables policy makers, practitioners and partnerships to tackle the determinants of health and health inequalities to effect long-term change.

Regional Health Strategy (2)



- A Technical Supplement provides further information about the health of the region's population
- This document is updated on an annual basis and used as a benchmark to measure the Strategy's progress and identify areas for review and change.
- The technical supplement is monitored by the GO East Public Health Group.
- Represented in the EERA Social Inclusion Panel

Regional Social Strategy



- 8 objectives: 1) tackling poverty, 2) access to work, 3) improving life chances of children, 4) reducing social exclusion of older people, 5) support sustainable communities, 6) improve access to services, 7) promote community cohesion, 8) improve life chances of adults through learning and skills development.
- Led by EERA – Social Inclusion Panel
- Input from stakeholders (including Rural Action East and its network of rural community councils)
- 10 year strategy – began 2004 – latest review 2007

Regional Social Strategy (2)



- 2007 review refreshed evidence base and developed a more flexible action plan - intended to have more of an impact at the local level.
- Stakeholders (including Rural Forum) can recommend additions to the Action Plan and can contribute to social inclusion panel meeting and/or provide feedback.

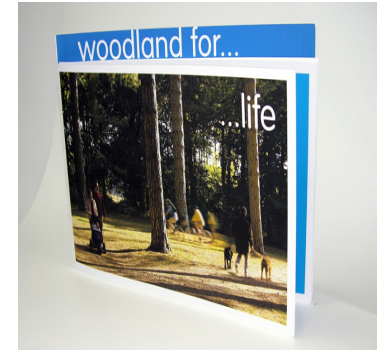
Regional Environment Strategy

- *'Our Environment, Our Future'* – created 2003
- EERA and EEEF led
- Monitored by EERA Environment and Resources Panel
- Reviewed in 2005, 6 main priorities identified:
 - 1) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions,
 - 2) development within environmental limits with particular focus upon water shortages and flood risk,
 - 3) reduce road traffic and car dependence,
 - 4) maintain and enhance environmental capital,
 - 5) promoting regional green economy and sustainable development,
 - 6) reducing waste

Regional Environment Strategy (2)

- ERP focuses upon the six main priorities of the Strategy
- However mainwork on these issues is through the influencing of the RSS and RES

The Woodland Strategy



- *'Woodland for Life'*
- Regional Woodland Strategy created 2003
- Forestry Commission and EERA
- Monitoring group recently published a progress report highlighting initiatives of strategy
- Future Plan to review strategy in line with plans for the proposed Single Regional Strategy.

Regional Cultural Strategy



- 'A Better Life' embraces performing arts, media, museums and archives, libraries and literature, sport, built heritage, archaeology, landscapes and countryside recreation, parks and play activities and tourism
- Produced by Living East with support of EERA
- Role of the strategy is to highlight the value of cultural activity and its importance to the quality of life in the East of England.

Regional Cultural Strategy (2)



- Themes of cultural strategy – participation and regeneration, improving business performance in the culture sector, building a regional image.
- Action plan running until the end of March 2008
- No plans to refresh action plan but the agenda will remain the same and will concentrate upon the IRS and outcome of SNR

EERA European Action Plan

- An annual action plan sets out issues for the Europe and International Affairs Pan
- 2008 priorities: sustainable growth, culture for sustainable communities, promoting EU funding opportunities, strengthening region's science, research and development potential, social exclusion, efficiency in resource use, benefits of region's international gateways and national transport corridors.
- Update on issues through EIAP meetings, minutes etc published on EERA website

Future changes

- Sub National Review (SNR) July 2007 outlines significant changes for the future of regional governance
- EEDA - guardian of a single regional strategy and also the principal body in the Region for delivering sustainable development
- Proposals will require primary legislation therefore strategies/reviews of strategies will continue until new procedures in place.

Future changes (2)

- EERA support 'close alignment' between the RES, RSS and other regional strategies – being discussed as to how this will work with other regional/local partners as part of SNR implementation.
- What will a single regional strategy encompass? How it would be developed? Expect this to be one of the main areas that the forthcoming SNR consultation will look at.
- The next SNR consultation due 12th March 2008

Conclusion

- Particular areas to influence for 2008
 - RSS consultation on the new review process
July 2008
 - Input to RES implementation – June – July
2008
- General awareness and input to all EERA strategies via EERA and relevant panels info can be found on EERA website

www.eera.gov.uk

Thank you

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partnership working



representation



supporting local government



strategy