



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

A wide-angle photograph of the white cliffs of Dover, England. The cliffs are a stark white, contrasting with the deep blue of the sea and the clear sky. The water in the foreground is a lighter, turquoise blue, showing some ripples and reflections. The horizon is visible in the distance.

Jörn Peters, Regional Planner

Planning to Adapt to Climate Change in the Region

A smaller version of the South East England Regional Assembly logo, located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It features the same teal square with a white map and the text "SOUTH EAST ENGLAND Regional Assembly" and "COUNCILS AND COMMUNITIES IN PARTNERSHIP".

# Planning Policy Statement Planning and Climate Change

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

§ 'New development should be planned to minimise future vulnerability in a changing climate'

§ 'Appropriate indicators should be selected for monitoring'

Plus – a Practice Guide:

§ Online tool

§ Examples of application of policy

§ Checklists



Planning shapes the places where people live and work and the country we live in. It plays a key role in supporting the Government's wider social, environmental and economic objectives and for sustainable communities.



## PLANNING

Planning Policy Statement:  
Planning and Climate Change

Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1

Department for Communities and Local Government  
Policy Challenge

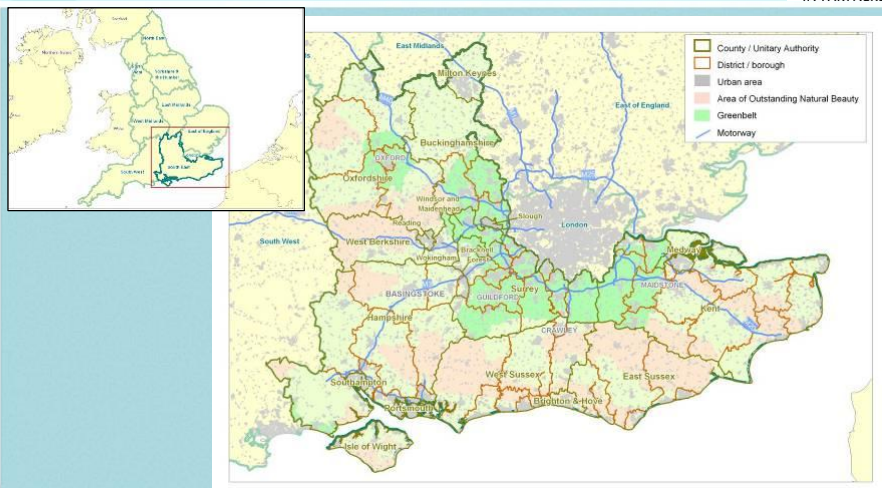
December 2007

# South East England

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

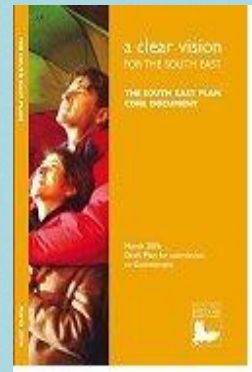


## South East Plan



20-year statutory regional framework for spatial development

- covering a wide range of topics including housing, employment, transport, natural resources, etc.
- setting policies for local authorities to follow
- Adoption very soon



## Changes to Regional Planning



Following Sub National Review

- New Regional model of joint governance
  - South East England Councils (SEEC)
  - South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)
- Single Regional Strategy
  - Integration of spatial and economic development



## Climate Change Reflected Throughout the South East Plan

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

- Cross cutting:
  - Climate Change
  - Sustainable Construction
- Sectoral:
  - Resource Management
  - Housing
  - Transport



## Adaptation in the Climate Change Policy

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly

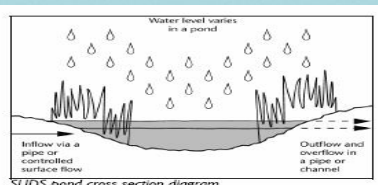


COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

- New development located away from areas at risk
- Resilience of buildings
- Water efficiency
- Sustainable surface water management
- Migration of habitats and species

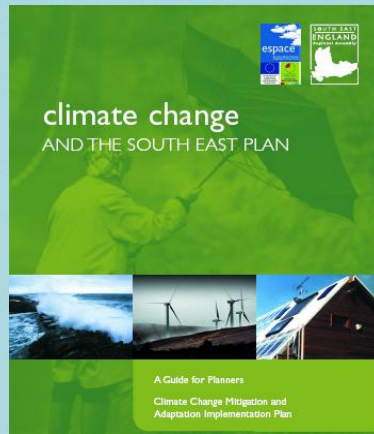


SUDS pond, housing development, Bicester



SUDS pond cross section diagram

# User-friendly guidance



[www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/planning\\_climate.html](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/planning_climate.html)

# Climate Change Implementation Plan



- Delivery of South East Plan policies
- Wide range of actions to address mitigation and adaptation
- Identification of potential delivery bodies



# Guide for Planners – Adaptation to Water Management

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

- § Better use of existing planning instruments
- § Flexibility to address uncertainty
- § Use of synergies and avoiding conflicts



## So how are we doing?

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

Difficult and too early to say ...

- Use of our webpages on climate change
- Check of policy conformity of local planning documents
- Monitoring through sectoral indicators (e.g. planning permissions in flood risk areas)
- Concept of regional resilience indicator (combining social, economic and environmental aspects)

## Some Barriers

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP



- Knowledge gaps
- Lack of co-ordination
- Lack of funding
- Conflicting priorities
- Resistance to change



## Generic Actions for Regional Bodies against Barriers

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP



- Increase the adaptation knowledge of and relevance for leaders and decision-makers
- Pursue policy consistency through shared guidelines
- Tap into existing partnerships and networks
- Improve access to information and advice



## New Guides for Local Planners

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

- Characteristics of the area
- Future challenges
- Vision & strategic objectives
- Spatial strategy
- Delivery strategy
- Monitoring delivery
- Technical Appendix



## ... one on Climate Change covering:

SOUTH EAST  
ENGLAND  
Regional Assembly



COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

- Water management
- Resilience of the built environment and infrastructure



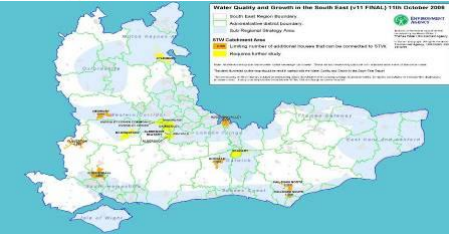
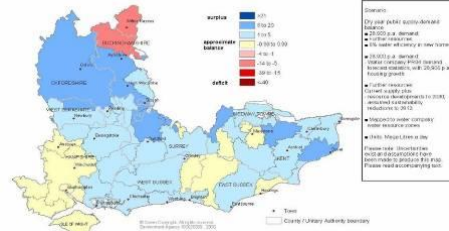


# How Vulnerable is the Region?



- The Population
- The Natural Resources
- The Build Environment
- Strategic infrastructure
- Economic Development

Water Resources Surplus-Deficit Forecast, 2026



# Strategic Objectives



'Current vulnerability'



'Future vulnerability'

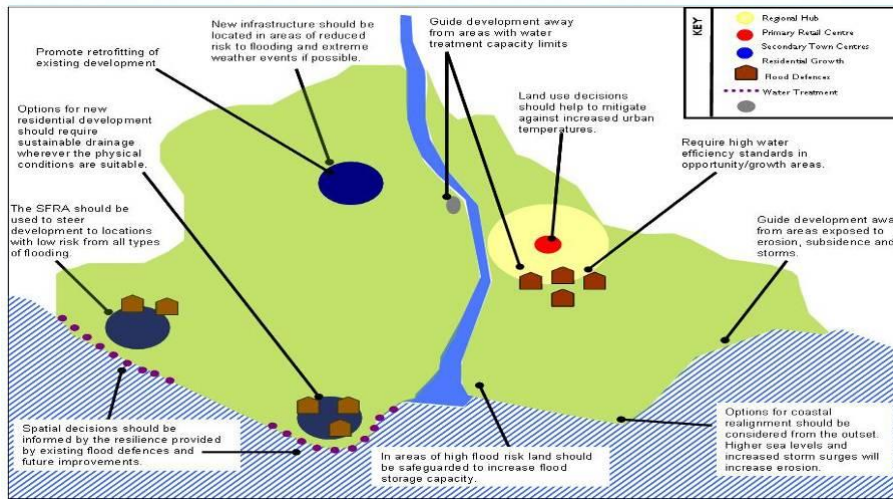
'How should we adapt?'

## Examples of strategic objectives

- Deliver new developments that encourage water efficiency internally and externally
- Ensure adequate water treatment infrastructure
- Guide development away from areas at risk
- Ensure critical infrastructure is resilient to extreme weather and climate change
- Pursue development in line with policies of flood management plans and set aside land to increase flood storage in flood prone areas



# The Spatial Dimension



# Conclusion



- ü National drivers
- ü Statutory regional policies
- ü Lots of guidance for local authorities
- ü Partnership working
- ü Barriers to policy implementation – thinking long-term
- ü Difficult to monitor progress - complexity





COUNCILS AND  
COMMUNITIES  
IN PARTNERSHIP

For more information, visit [www.southeast-ra.gov.uk](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk)