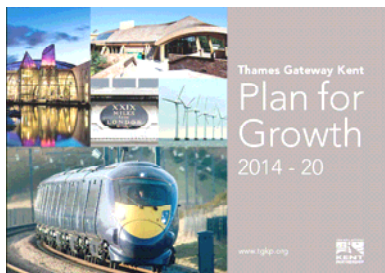


Thames Gateway Kent: Delivering the Plan

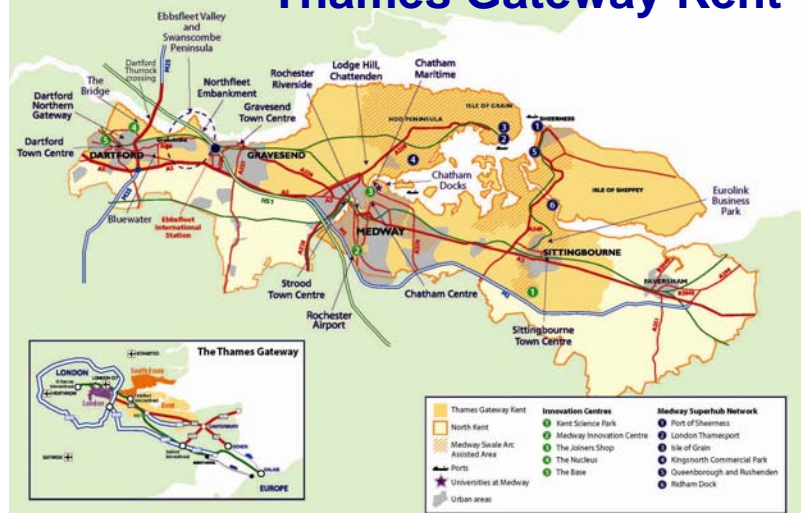
Richard Longman, TGKP
KICC Economic Development Group
24 June 2014



Plan for Growth: Priorities

1. Delivering growth in key locations
2. Attracting and retaining investment
3. Focusing on quality
4. Key industry sectors
5. Increasing innovation, enterprise and creativity
6. Improving skills, qualifications and employability

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Delivering growth in key locations

- Identify and tackle barriers to development – include lobbying Government
- Transport infrastructure – lobby for priorities, for SELEP and national investment
- Explore funding mechanisms that will unlock sites' potential
- Support Ebbsfleet Garden City, London Paramount, Medway Superhub
- Articulate business views on national initiatives



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Attracting and retaining investment

- Promote positive marketing of Thames Gateway Kent – with LiK and UKTI
- Help ensure supply and promotion of high quality sites
- Promote additional opportunities through Medway-Swale Arc Assisted Area



Focusing on quality

- Ensure development reflects community needs and respects natural environment
- Promote best practice – design, public realm, green and blue infrastructure



- Promote solution-focused approaches
- Help make Ebbsfleet an exemplar of high quality development

Supporting sector growth

- Build on existing strengths – logistics, manufacturing, sustainable construction
- Promote high-growth high-value sectors: e.g. environmental technologies, business & financial services, ICT, CCI, life sciences, tourism & leisure
- Promote specialist training provision
- Supply of premises
- Improve awareness and access to information on exporting opportunities



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Supporting innovation, enterprise and creativity

- Access to finance – TIGER and successors
- Promote increased investment in R&D
- Strengthen links between business and Universities
- Extend Kent Innovation Corridor
- Ensure coherent and well-signposted business support offer



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Improving skills, qualifications and employability

- Encourage business engagement with schools and colleges
- Work with national agencies to ensure programmes address North Kent priorities
- Develop support to increase number and take-up of Apprenticeships and in-work training
- Help secure employer-responsive skills training provision



Funding Context

- SELEP Growth Deal
 - Bid £1.2bn 2015-21
 - £501m for Kent & Medway
 - £199m North Kent
 - £152m Transport
 - £7.75m Skills Capital
 - £38m Land & Property
 - Plus share of pan-K&M programmes
 - Announcement expected 7 July
- Funding x3 over-subscribed
- Flexibility / prescription unclear
- Keep lobbying
- EU Structural & Investment Funds
 - Role for KMEP in shaping programme / projects (also TGKP in North Kent)

Feedback

- General
 - Infrastructure critical
 - Businesses missing opportunities e.g. R&D tax credits
- Skills
 - Competition from London
 - Need to invest in staff
 - Businesses should be more specific about their needs
 - Engage with schools and the community
 - Better advice and guidance
- Access to finance
 - Identifying and navigating what's available
 - Importance of solid business planning
 - Explore alternative sources (e.g. Funding Circle)
- Business Support
 - Using networks and critical friends
 - Talk to public sector (UKTI, local councils)
 - Need for better signposting of provision

Next steps

- Action planning
 - Covering all priorities in full Plan for Growth
- Particular focus on:
 - Sectors
 - Skills
 - Business support
 - Access to finance
 - Exploring the full implications of Assisted Area status in the Medway-Swale Arc

Further Information

Brochure, Main Report, Evidence
Review and other documents available
at www.tgkp.org/documents