



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

Matter 8Div / East Kent and Ashford: Implementation and Format

Government Office for the South East of England (7447)

Draft RSS for The South East of England -The South East Plan
Examination in Public - November 2006 to March 2007
Written Statement on behalf of HM Government - December 2006

8Div Have the water supply and waste water treatment, flood risk and transport implications of the growth proposal been adequately been considered?

1. The sub-regional strategy looks at the use of greenfield sites for both housing and employment but does not necessarily look at the impact of development on these issues.
2. In identifying development sites recognition is given to proximity of transport and labour market. (Policy EKA8).
3. Also the Ashford Integrated Water Management Strategy study by the Environment Agency, confirms that the proposed level of growth in Ashford is achievable;
4. However we would reiterate our earlier representation that the Ashford RPG9 amendment already has a policy regarding the provision of infrastructure and that the last paragraph of policy EKA1 is unduly negative.
5. We therefore feel that these issues should be discussed in more detail at the Examination with a view to co-ordinating EKA1 with the wording in the 4 policies at the Annex to this strategy.

8Div Are the proposals in the implementation plan (including for social and green infrastructure) clear, justified and well related to the spatial strategy? What are the priorities?

1. The Implementation and delivery table within the Strategy is not clear regarding responsibility for delivery of the policies. The setting out of lead and supporting roles is not helpful in that some of the supporting roles may be key to investment and delivery.
2. It would be useful to see where the lead and supporting roles align and meet and who would be responsible for delivery of the policies. We believe this is implied but not stated clearly.

8Div Does the proposed sub-regional policy framework (14 policies) provide an appropriate level of guidance for LDDs?

1. As stated in the matter above, there needs to be greater clarity on how the relationship between the leading and supporting roles are carried out and what work for the emerging Core Strategies in the Local Development Frameworks will need to be identified by local authorities to support delivery of these policies.
2. Policies EKA 1, EKA 2, EKA 7, EKA 10 all make direct reference to Local Development Documents but there may be room for further guidance to Local Authorities to support the delivery for the other policies. The Panel may wish to explore this further at the examination.