

UE8: RESEARCH PROJECT
JUNE 2012



BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

- THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

RESEARCH GUIDE - PROF. JOSE SERRANO

PRESENTED BY,

THIRUPURASUNDARI SEVVEL
ANURAG KUMAR

M2 URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING



PART 1

A. INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH

PART 2

A. HYPOTHESIS

B. AIM AND OBJECTIVES

C. METHODOLOGY

PART 3

A. PLANNING SYSTEM AND GOVERNANCE –SCHEME

B. THE MAJOR CHANGES AFTER THE REFORM

C. MAPS AND MAP ANALYSIS

D. INTERVIEW ANALYSIS

E. KEY ACTORS AND THEIR ROLES

F. THE SCHEME OF ACTORS

PART 4

A. THE SCHEME OF FUNDING

B. THE COMPARISON BEFORE AND AFTER THE REFORM

C. APPEARANCE AND DISAPPEARANCE OF ISSUES AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

D. CONCLUSIONS

REFERENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH



“Moving into the safe and just space for humanity means eradicating poverty to bring everyone above the social foundation, and reducing global resource use, to bring it back within planetary boundaries”

'A Safe and Just Space for Humanity', Oxfam (2012)

“A green economy as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) (2008)

■ Urban development with balance in environment and economy is one of the main focus in urban planning and also a challenge in today's urban development and growth.

■ Balanced development means attaining a balance between environmental protection and human economic development and between the present and future needs. It means equity in development and actions across space and time. It requires an integration of economic, social and environmental approaches towards development.

■ The project was a part of the framework of study included in the FRANG program, a Franco -English work program which is working on the relationships between the Economy and the environmental issues.

■ Initially the background mapping study was conducted on a total time span of 6 weeks which included a funded site visit for a week to the area of study, with 5 final year students of the Ecole Polytechnique de l'Université de Tours.





Hypothesis or Research questions :

The research tries to provide an understanding and analysis on, how the local government decides on the development strategies and if the economic issues gain an upper hand over the environmental issues .



RESEARCH AIM :

▪ **TO ANALYZE THE STAND OF ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENT ISSUES BEFORE AND AFTER THE PLANNING REFORMS AND CHANGES AND, TO IDENTIFY AND DEMONSTRATE IF THE CHANGES AND REFORMS PROVIDE A BALANCE BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY.**

OBJECTIVES :

▪ **TO ANALYZE** HOW ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES ARE DEBATED WHEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECIDE ON THEIR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND THEIR INFLUENCE.

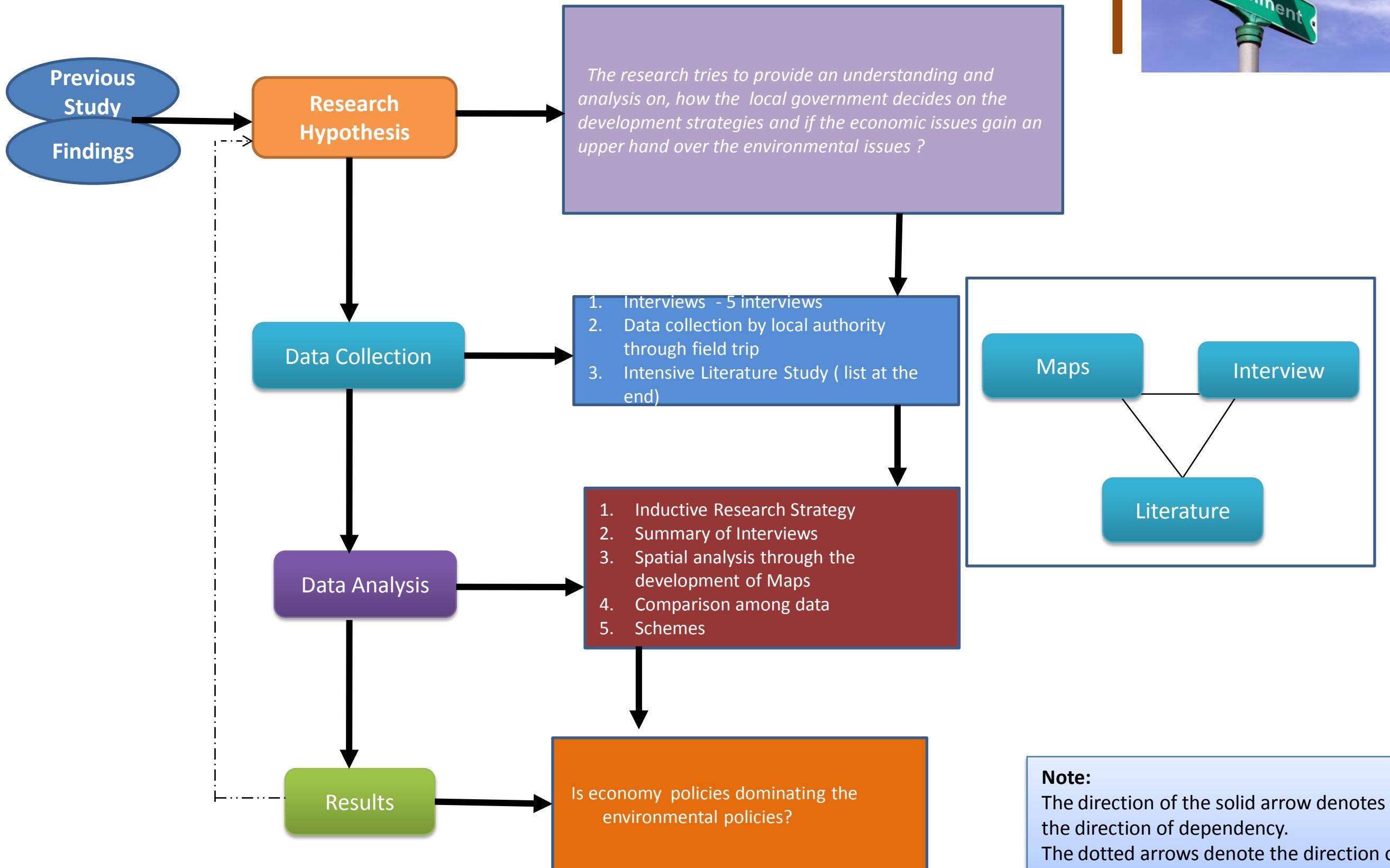
▪ **TO IDENTIFY** THE SPECIAL INDICATORS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMICAL ASPECTS THROUGH BASIC DATA COLLECTION

▪ **TO DISCOVER** THE AREAS OF CONFLICT BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND ECONOMIC ISSUES SENSITIVE ZONES THROUGH OVERLAY METHOD.

▪ **TO DEVELOP** SCHEMES AND ARGUMENTS TO DEMONSTRATE THE HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ACTORS AND ISSUES RELATED TO ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT.

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

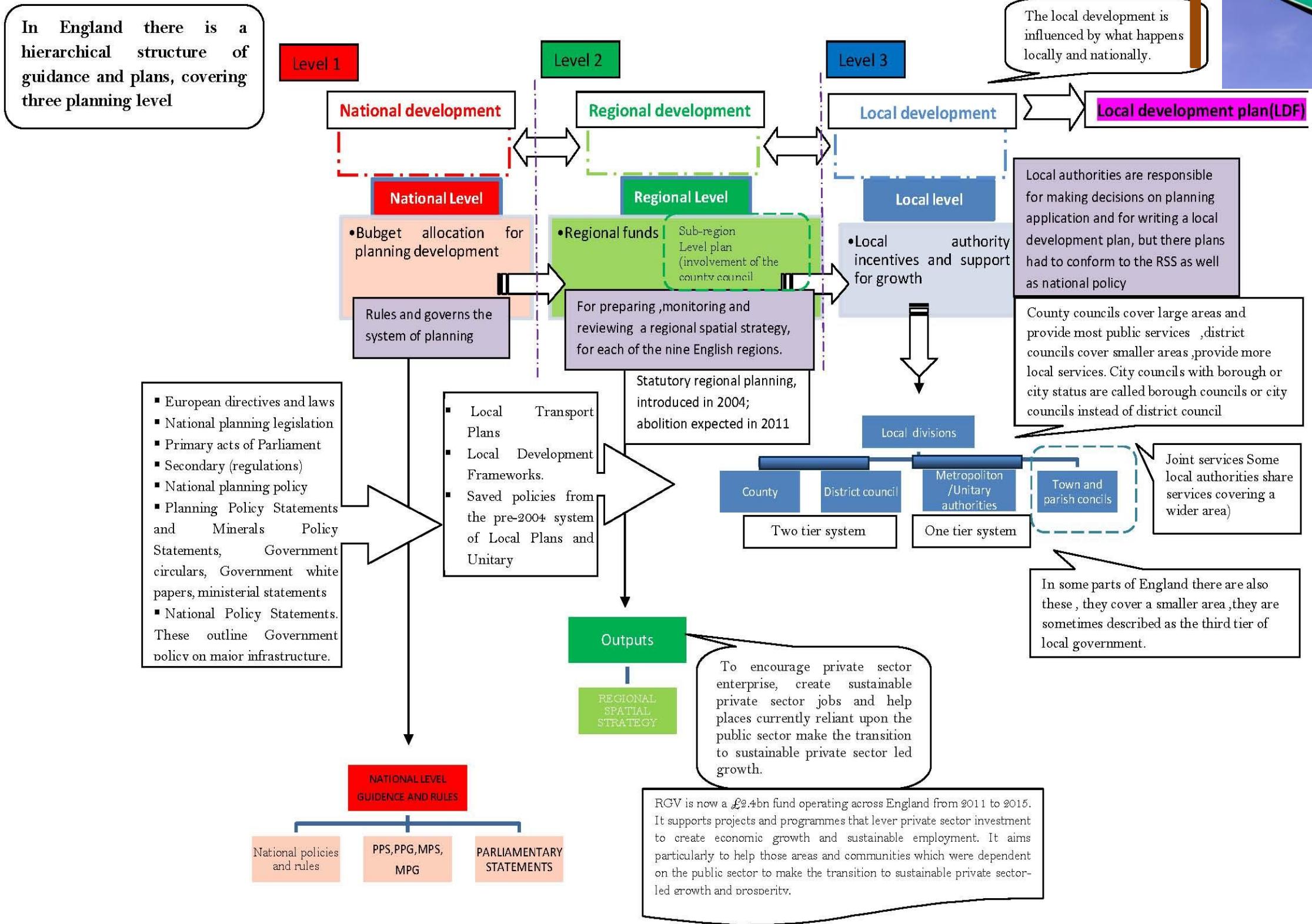
METHODOLOGY



BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM, UK



PLANNING SYSTEM AND GOVERNANCE



SOURCE: Anurag & Thirupura Sundari

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

THE MAJOR CHANGES AFTER THE REFORM



Economy

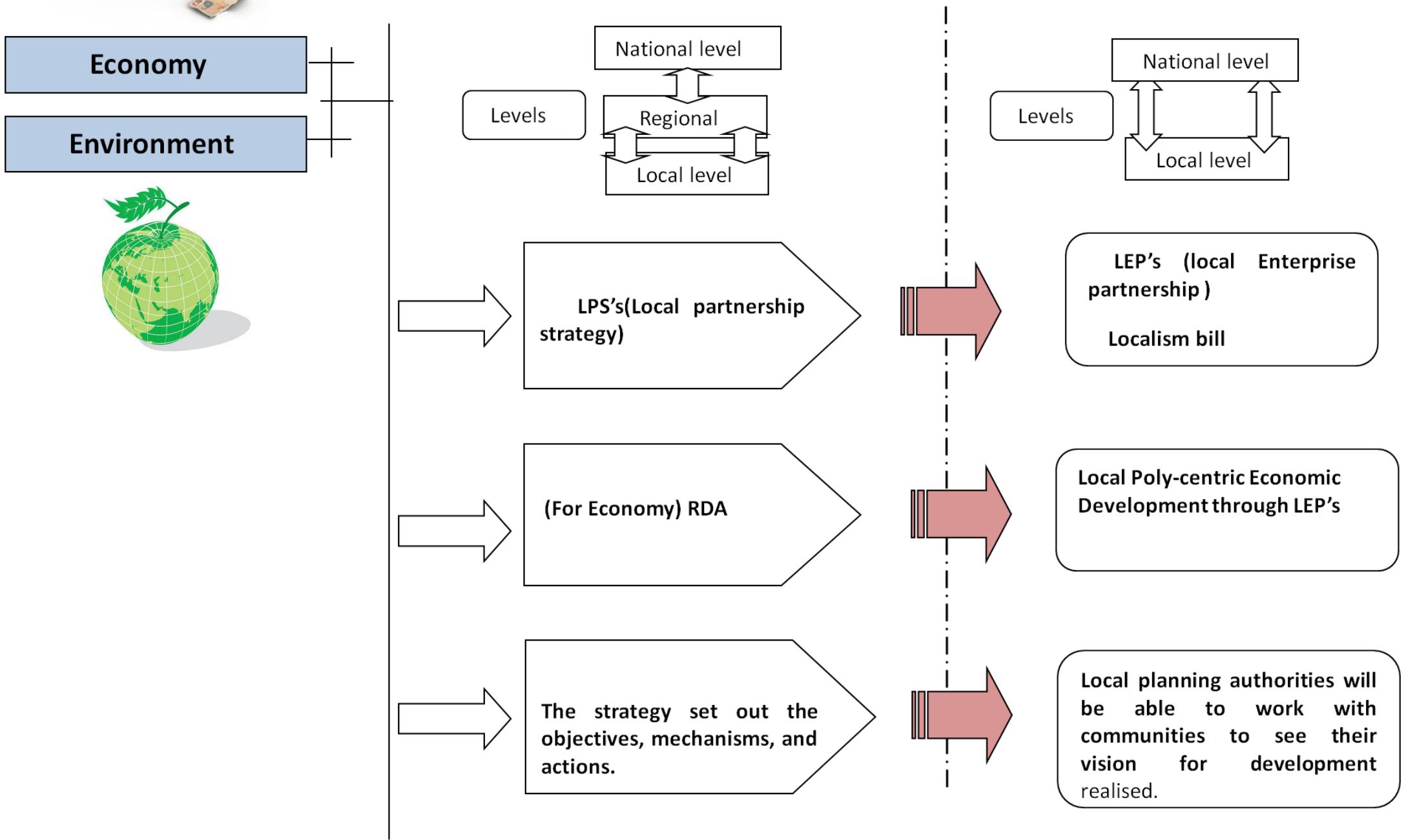
Environment



Planning

With RSS

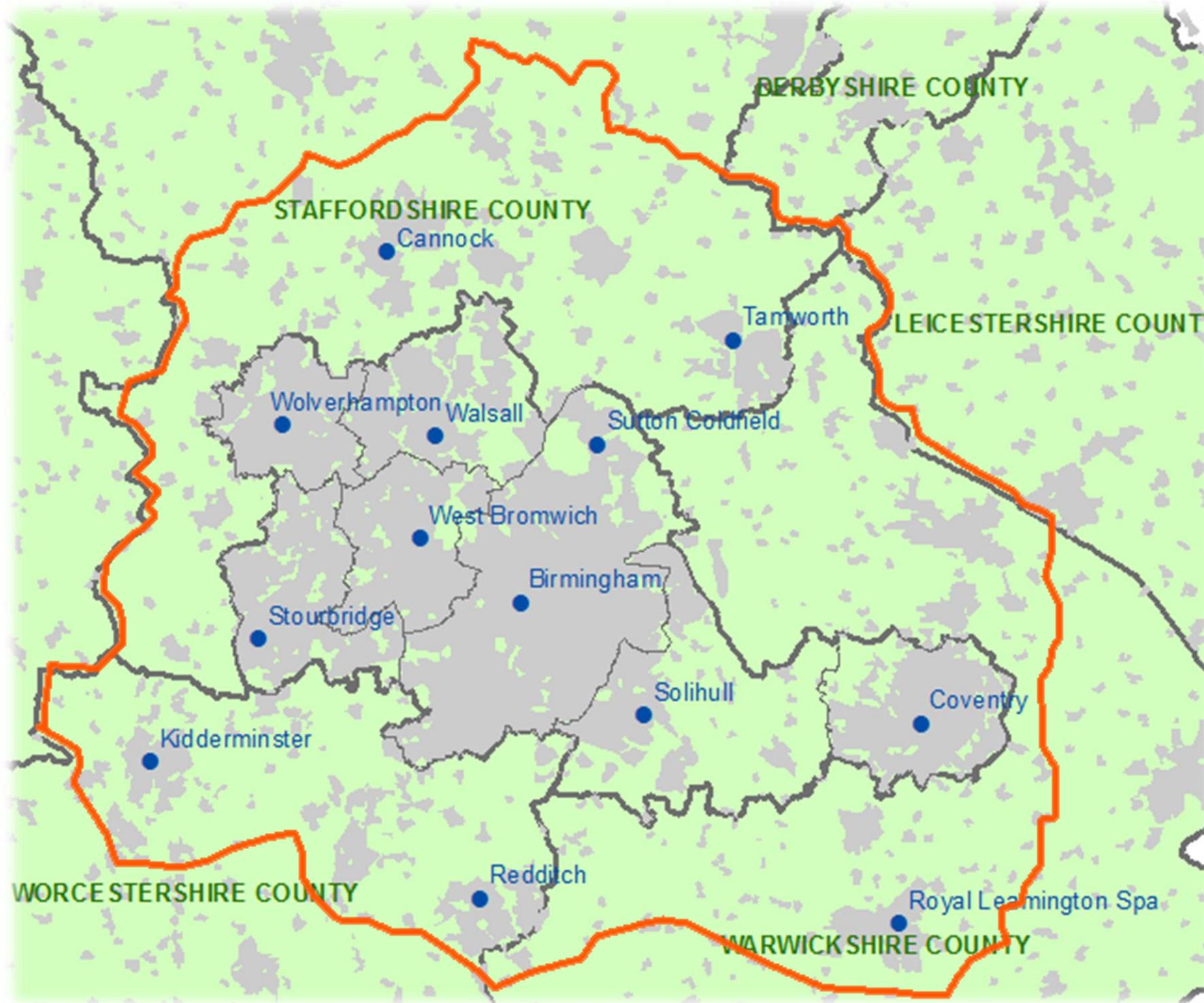
After abolition of RSS





MAPS

The area of study



Legend

- Cities
- District boundaries
 - West Midlands districts
 - Developed Land Used Area
 - Area of study
 - County boundaries

0 2 4 8 Miles

Sources:
OS Open Data (Meridian 2)

made by F.MARGARY

•About 2850 kms

•35% urbanized

•+ 3 million inhabitants

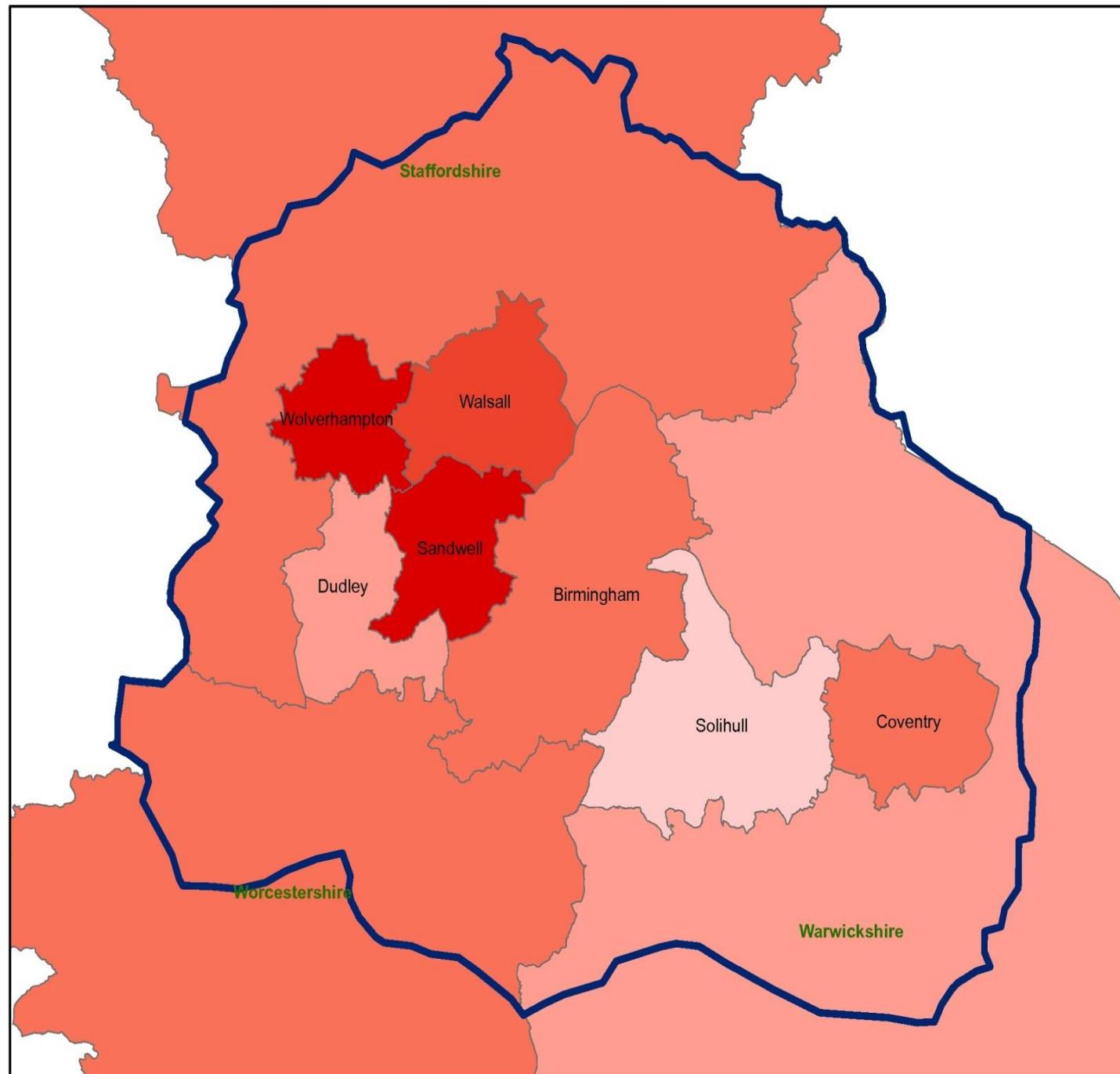
•A protected greenbelt

•An important Industrial past

•A dense road network



Unqualified persons rate by district/county in the study area in 2004

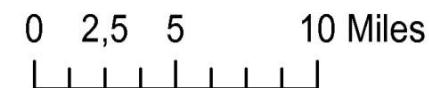
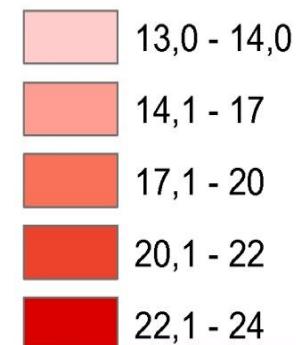


Legend

Study area

District/County boundaries

Unqualified persons rate



Sources: ONS 2004 census

Made by F.Margary

•Unemployment increased in all districts since 2004

- England: 8,4%
- WM Region: 9,3%
- WM county: 11,4%
- Black Country: 12,1%

•22% and 24% unskilled persons rate in Wolverhampton and Sandwell.

•19% on the whole

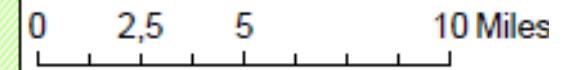
Location of activities areas

MAPS

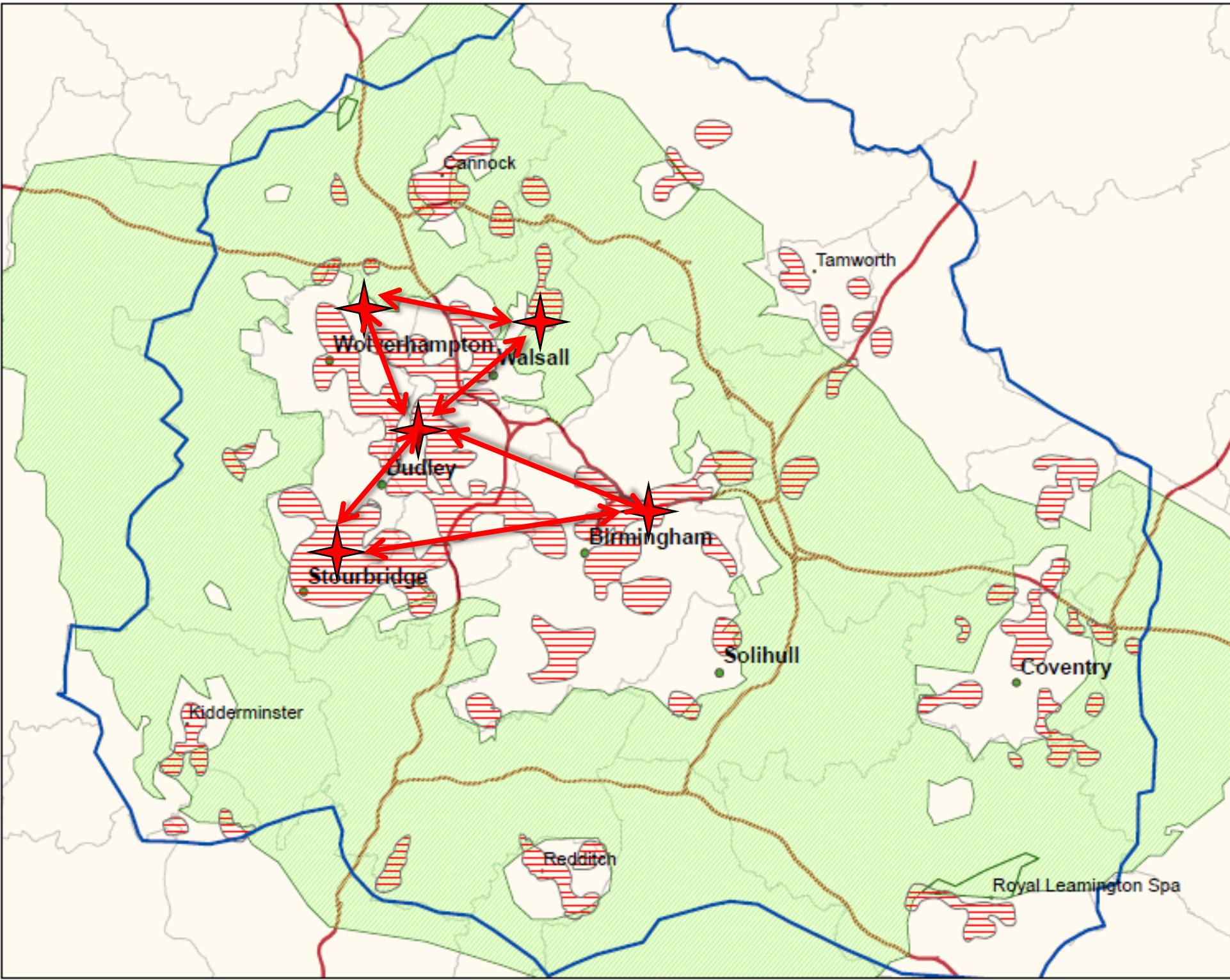


Legend

- Area of Study
- Activities Areas
- Greenbelt
- District
- Main Cities
- Cities
- Motorway

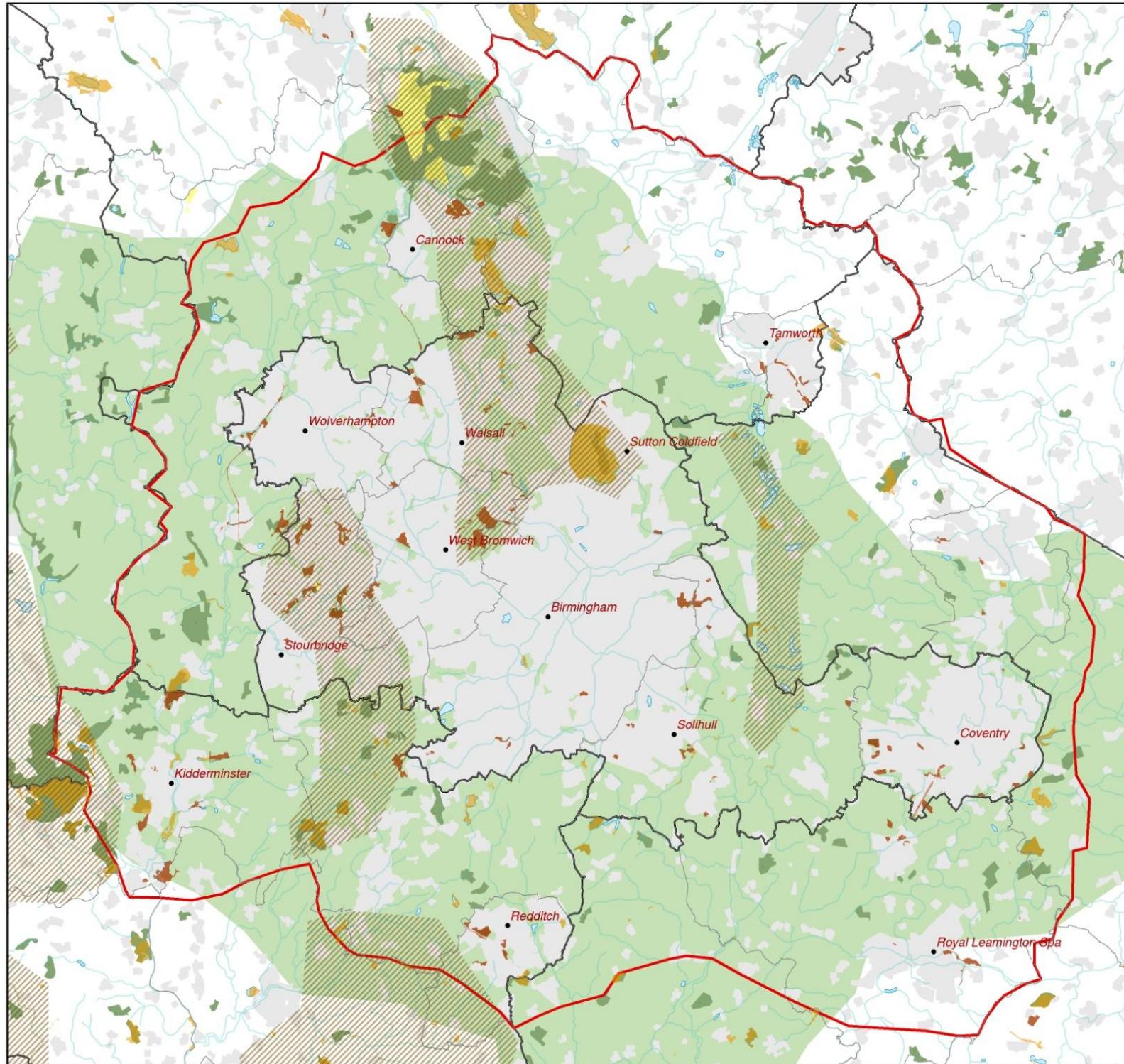


References
Google Earth 2007
Open Data (Meridien 2)





State of the environment and protected areas



- Area for concentrated Biodiversity Enhancement
- Area of Natural Beauty
- Local Natural Area
- Special Area of Conservation
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Area of study
- Rivers
- lakes
- Woodland
- Built up Area
- Greenbelt



0 2,5 5 10 Miles

References

AONB, LNR, SAC and SSSI:
naturalengland.org.uk

Rivers, lake, built up areas:
Meridian 2 (tm), data.gov.uk

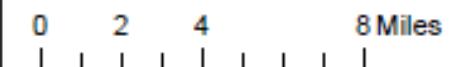
Green belt: cprewm.org.uk

Area for concentrated Biodiversity enhancement:
RSS

Auteur: SZEWE C

Economical Dynamism of the LEPs

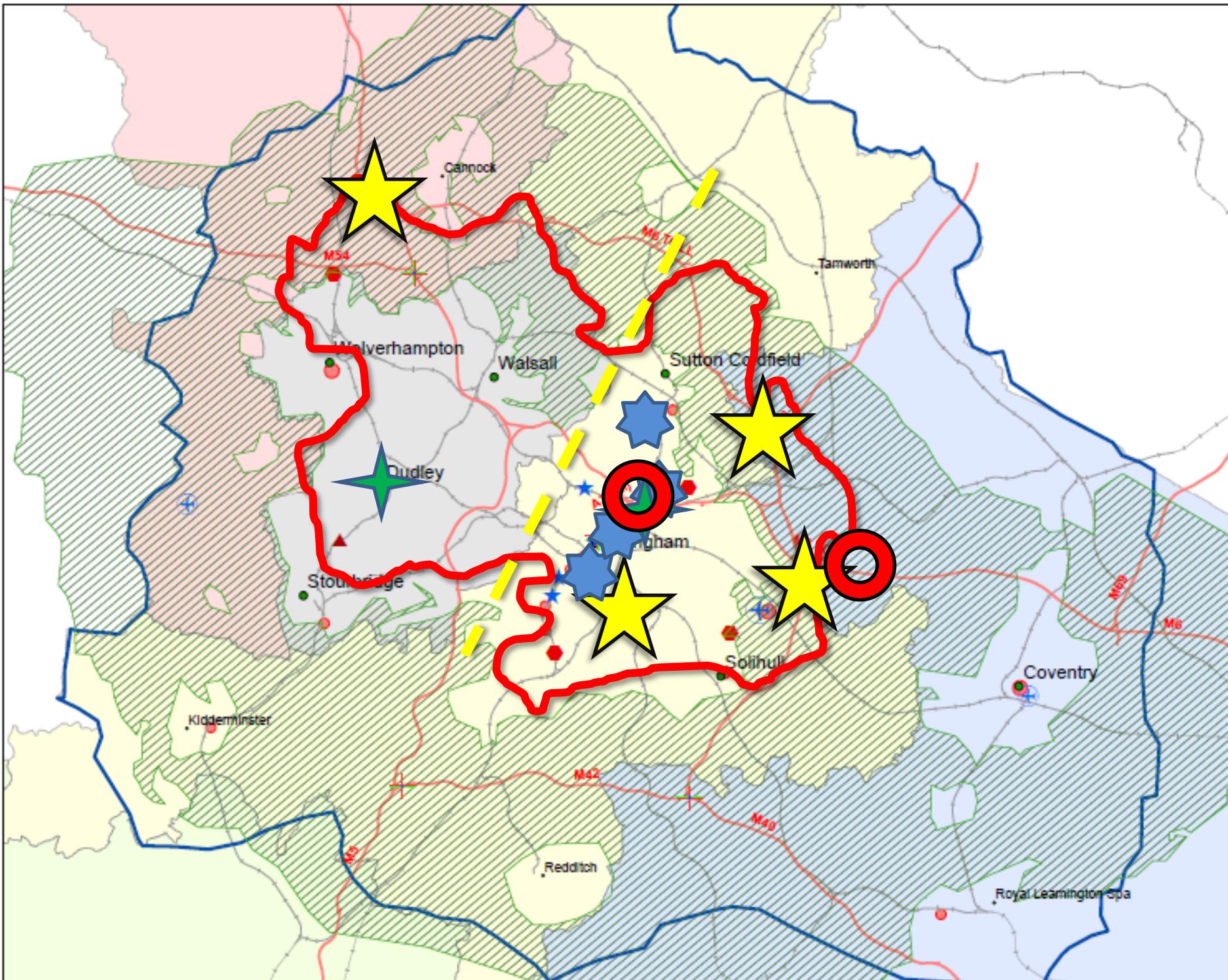
MAPS



References

West Midlands Regional Observatory (2010)
 Delta Rail Group 2010
 Google Earth 2007
 Open Data (Meridian 2)
 www.bis.gov.uk

Made by : V. Tranchant



BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

INTERVIEW ANALYSIS



In terms of / By	Strategic planning, Birmingham City Council	Friends of Earth	West Midlands Council	Strategic Development, Birmingham City Council	West Midlands Local Authorities Engineers & Planning Officers group
Governance	-	Environment not a priority.	The organizations work together, but each with individual identity.	Changes in policy perspective	-
Local authority /consulting bodies	The city authority had to reconsider their city's future;.	Poorly founded consulting bodies.	There is no role by local authorities in economic development.	They work with local authorities of different areas across boundary.	-
Role of Region , before and after	-	It is just between local authorities and private sectors.	Government policy is majorly to cut public spending and improve the economic development.	-	Confusion and blurred clarity of work and roles
Environment and Greenbelt	Regeneration gives problems because the sites are not very large	At the moment, the economy wins against the environmental issues.	Currently the concern of economy has put every other thing secondary.	Economy is always given a priority ahead of environment.	The greenbelt is a very desired area and there is a lot of pressure, but it's still a natural area.

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

INTERVIEW ANALYSIS



In terms of / By	Strategic planning, Birmingham City Council	Friends of Earth	West Midlands Council	Strategic Development, Birmingham City Council	West Midlands Local Authorities Engineers & Planning Officers group
Economy : LEP's(Local Enterprise Partnership)	It is obliged that network of local operators has to be sensible and try to make each group to work individually.	They are putting economy against environment.	Since, the region was removed; the major role in economic development is played by LEP.	The financial model 's major goal is to raise revenue, to make the city more attractive.	New geography is based on what is called Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).
Community involvement	-	People pressure and awareness.	-	-	-
Infrastructure -Transport	The key issue is to promote the city centre, and improve international accessibility.	-	The only major project that is coming up is tramway to connect station from other parts of the city.	To get a nodal shift.	-
Future vision /Idea of Birmingham	The future in 2026 is on way. As we have set up a vision for Birmingham. The development area is on a green belt, so there is an opposition for green belt but it isn't very strong	-	-	There can be improvements in private –public transport – metro extension (2015),and there is a lots going on and the potential can stimulate a lot.	-

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

ROLE OF ACTORS



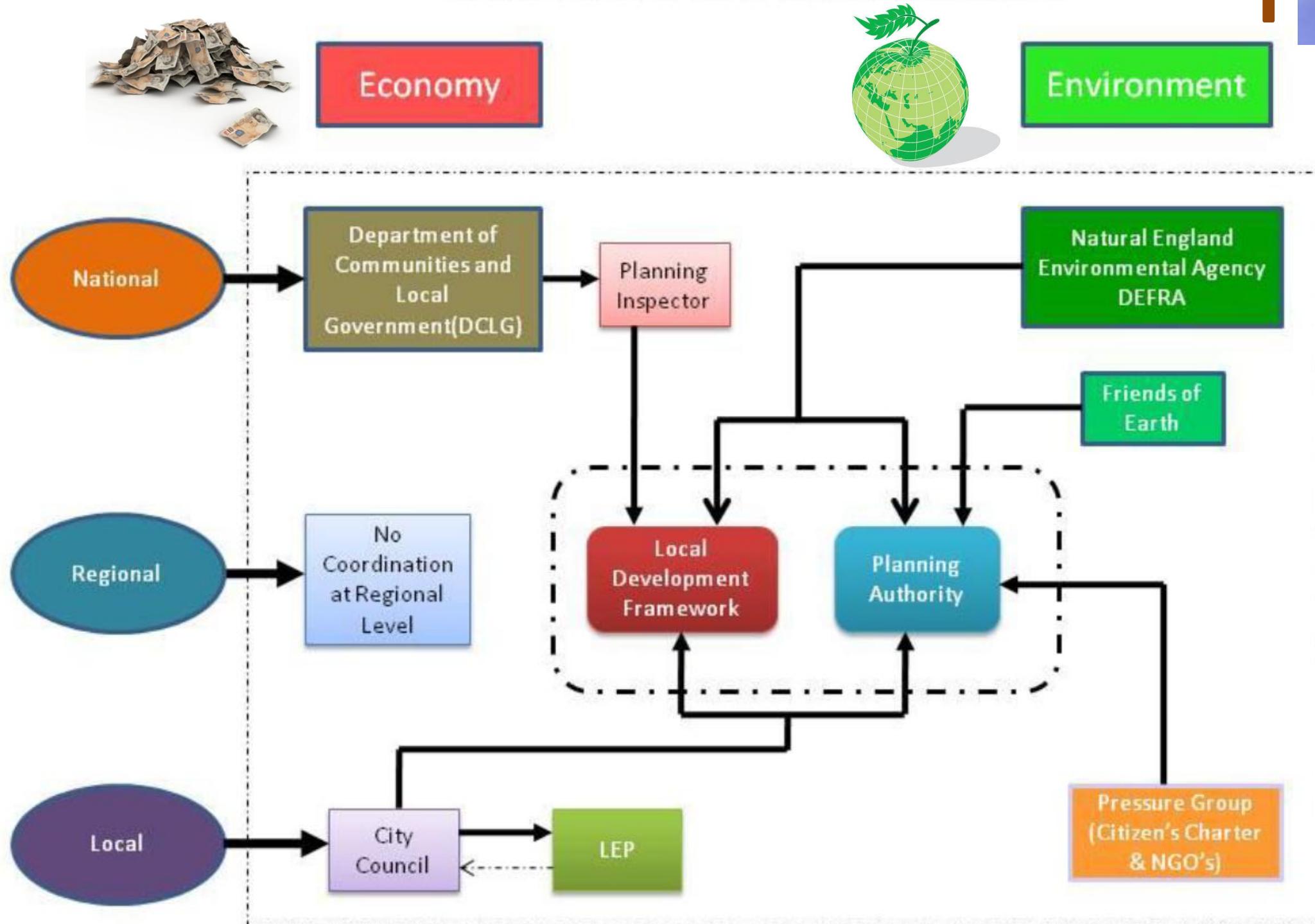
Field	Actors	Role
Environment 	Environmental Agency	Environmental Guidelines for new development at national and Local Level
	Natural England	Conserving the natural resources from new development and making guidelines
	Citizens charter and NGO's (Pressure Group)	Power to oppose and ask for an explanation (Local authority should make a survey and take opinions)
	Friends of Earth	International Organisation raising concern over environmental issues.
	DEFRA	Department is responsible for natural environment and its protection, Biodiversity, sustainable development, pollution control and green economy.
Economy 	Department of Business and Innovation Skills	Department is responsible for business development, business law, economic development
	European Regional Development Fund	Support sustainable development through policy and funding and Regional coordination. Funding available from EU to regional Level.
	European Social Fund	Funds available for social development
	Local Enterprise Partnership	LEP Build partnership between Private groups and Local Authority on project basis or establishment of new business

SOURCE: Anurag & Thirupura Sundari



SCHEME OF ACTORS

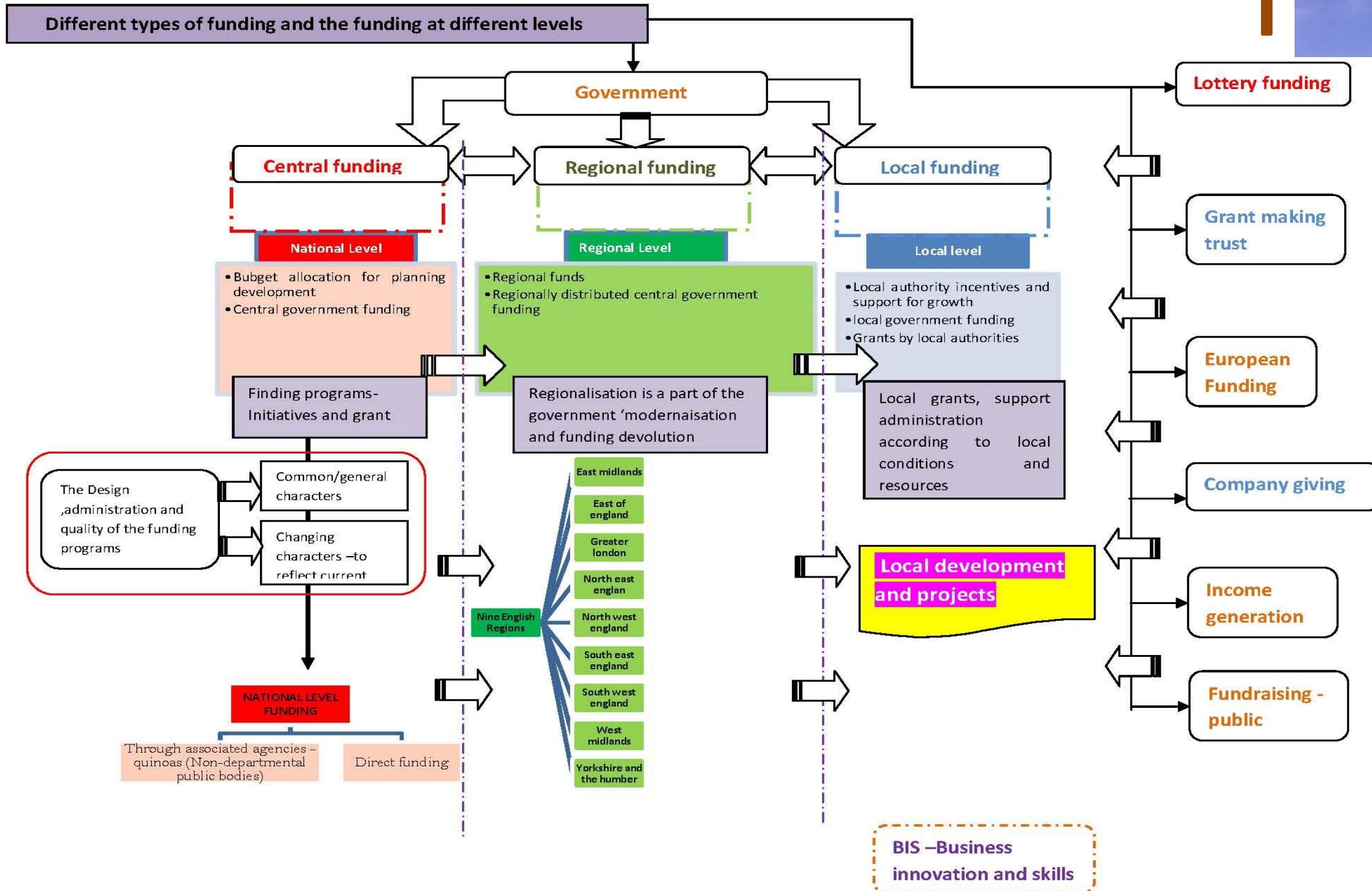
THE ACTORS OF THE PLANNING SYSTEM



BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM, UK



THE SCHEME OF FUNDING



SOURCE: Anurag & Thirupura Sundari

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK

COMPARISON BEFORE AND AFTER THE REFORM OF 2010



	Before 2010	After 2010
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In England Regional Planning Bodies (in London, the Mayor) prepare and produce a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) (in London, the Spatial Development Strategy) reflecting the needs and aspirations for development and land use for a ten to fifteen year period (Office of Deputy Prime Minister: General Planning System). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2010, regional level is abolished by national government, the shift of power as gone to nuclear level. As currently, local authorities are directly responsible for their development and land use planning based on national guidance.
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each RSS should reflect, and build on, the policies set out at national level. The RSS can include policies relating to the area, or part of the area, of more than one local planning authority, allowing for sub-regional planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As currently each local authority is responsible for its development and policies. As such no specific regional coordination is available on regional dimension within local authorities.
Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In England, decision-making was more regionalized, but primarily to suit the convenience of central government. A few powers and responsibilities have passed down from national level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now, the decision-making has become more centralized, primarily to suit the convenience of central government in economic development. A few powers and responsibilities have passed down from national level to local level.
Regionalism or localism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional government in Britain was responsible for region economic performance in the longer term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A move to regionalism to localism in Britain may improve economic performance in the longer term. But much depends on the powers and resources they receive and their capacity to construct the public-private alliances that make economic strategies most effective.

SOURCE: Anurag & Thirupura Sundari



APPEARANCE AND DISAPPEARANCE OF ISSUES AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

National	
<p>Localism bill (Appearance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift of power to local communities and business, enabling places to tailor their approach to local circumstances; • Promote efficient and dynamic markets, in particular in the supply of land, and provide real and significant incentives for places that go for growth; and • Support investment in places and people to tackle the barriers to growth. 	<p>Localism bill (DISAPPEARANCE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of coordination between theory and practical as it is still not clear about power and funding distribution • Insufficient information as how different bodies are going to work with each other • Too new to discuss as the bill is new so it is hard to interpret.
Regional level	
<p>Appearance (Before 2010)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective protection of the environment; • Prudent use of natural resources; and • Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment. • Good approach to boost regional development(Establishment of RDA and RSS) 	<p>Disappearance (Before 2010)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long and lengthy process in the establishment of business • Impossibly complicated and expensive to do • Expected goal not achieved in terms of economy (Economic degradation) • Lack of coordination among Multilevel actors (too many actors involved)
Local level	
<p>LEPs (Appearance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local enterprise partnerships will wish to provide the strategic leadership in their areas to set out local economic priorities • Business and civic leaders work together • Direct relation between national and local government in economic development 	<p>LEPs Disappearance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient information about role and power (practical) as many things are just in draft • Coordination between local and business groups • Too new to interpret about its future

CONCLUSION

The research tried to provide an understanding and analysis on, how the local government decides on the development strategies and if the economic issues gain an upper hand over the environmental issues .



New economic policy towards localism



Economy as key driver in the current English planning system



CONCLUSION



*A comparative approach on the consideration of environmental and economic issues –
The economy gaining an upper hand over the environment*

Local level

Co-ordination between environment and economy is required more than competition.



Predominant Local issues

Unemployment issues

Unskilled labor rate

- The very creation of the ,LEP is completely focused on Economy and has nothing to do with environment. Building partnership between enterprises and local authorities has given economy a new dimension
- The environmental issues are taken into account nationally and local authorities are bound to follow the guidance of environmental organizations such as Natural England and Environmental agency.
- Pressure groups and citizens have also an important role in protection of environment.RSS sets out the objectives and actions for identifying, protecting and enhancing environmental assets through local development documents.
- But at the end in the local government decision making process ,less of importance is given to the Environmental issues and they have been put secondary because of priorities given to Local economic development and priorities.

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK -

SELECTED REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1) I. Fernandez, M.C. Ruiz (2009) *Descriptive model and evaluation system to locate sustainable industrial areas*, Journal of Cleaner Production 17.
- 2) Marco Bontje.,(July2004)*Sustainable new economic centers in European Metropolitan Regions: a Stakeholders' perspective*, European planning studies, Vol.12, No.5, July 2004,
- 3) Philip R. Berke , *Are we planning for sustainable development?*, APA Journal, Vol.66, No.1, Winter 2000, Maria Manta Conroy
- 4) Stephen M. Wheeler ,*The Evolution of built landscapes in metropolitan regions*, Journal of planning education and research, 27; 400; 2008,
- 5) Stephen M. Wheeler ,*Planning for sustainability*, Contemporary concerns of planning,
- 6) *Solihull draft Local Plan, Shaping a sustainable future*, Local development framework, pre-submission draft January 2012
- 7) *Regional spatial strategy for the West Midlands*, Government office for the West Midlands, January 2008
- 8) *Green Deal*, Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2010
- 9) *What Price West Midlands Green Belts?*, Campaign to Protect Rural England, June 2007
- 10) *The Planning System: General Principles*, Office of the deputy Prime Minister, 2005
- 11) *Environmental report on the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands*, Communities and Local Government, October 2011
- 12) *A Summary of Climate Change Risks for the West Midlands*, Sustainability West Midlands, 2012
- 13) *Environmental Policy and Innovation*, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, 2004
- 14) *Mainstreaming sustainable development*, DEFRA, February 2011
- 15) *Social and Environmental Responsibility and the Small Business Owner*, Federation of Small Businesses, 2007
- 16) *Climate Change and Transport Choices*, Department for Transport, July 2011
- 17) *Abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies: a planning vacuum*, House of Commons, February 2011
- 18) *Environment report on the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands*, Communities and local government, October 2011
- 19) *Abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies: a planning vacuum*, House of Commons Communities and local Government Committee, 28 February 2011
- 20) Anthony Vigor *A New Regional Policy for the UK*, The Institute for Public Policy Research London, John Adams, Peter Robinson,
- 21) Philip Booth, *Description in Planning Versus Zoning*, The Athlone Press 1999
- 22) H.W.E. Davies ,*The Planning System and the development Plans*, The Athlone Press 1999
- 23) Tony Jackson.,(February 2007)*Mainstreaming sustainability in Local Economic Development Proactive*, Local Economy, Vol.22, No.1, February 2007.
- 24) *Birmingham core strategy 2026, A plan for sustainable growth*, consultation draft, December 2010

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY - THE CASE OF BIRMINGHAM ,UK -

SELECTED REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

24. *Local Authority Revenue Expenditure and Financing England 2011-12 budget*, Department of Communities and Local Government, 30th June 2011.
25. Prof. Peter Tyler, *Expert Evaluation Network Delivering Policy Analysis on the performance of cohesion policy 2007-2013*, A report to the European Commission Directorate-General Regional Policy November 2010,
24. John Bachtler, Fiona Wishlade and Douglas Yuill , *Regional Policies after 2006: Complementarity or conflict*, European Policy Research Paper, University of Strathclide,
25. *The Planning System: General Principles*, Office of Deputy Prime Minister 2005.
26. *West Midlands ERDF Operational Program 2007-13: Mid-Term Performance Evaluation*, A Final Report by Regeneris Consulting, September 2011.
27. *Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007 – 2013*, West Midlands European Regional Development Fund Operational Program Version 2, November 2011.
28. *The National ERDF Handbook*, The English Convergence and Competitiveness Programs 2007–2013 (ERDF-GN-1-001).
29. *Regional Government in England: A Preliminary Review of Literature and Research Findings*, Department of Environment Transport and Regions, October 2000.
30. *Regional Government in Britain - an economic solution?*, European Institute for Urban Affairs (EIUA) at Liverpool John Moore's University.
31. *West Midlands Councils Financial Statements*, 31st March 2011, Clement Keys (Chartered Accountants).
32. Sir Peter Hall. *The Regional Dimension*, The Athelone Press 1999
33. Barry Cullingworth , *British Planning: 50 years of Urban and Regional Policy*, The Athelone Press 1999,
34. *Birmingham: the making of the second city, 1850-1939* Tempus, Stroud, Hopkins, E. (2001).
35. Oivind Bratberg , *The evolution and abolition of regional governance in England – British politics review* , Volume 1 , number 3 –summer 2011
36. Gill Bentley, David Bailey
John Shutt- *From RDAs to LEPs: A New Localism? Case Examples of West Midlands and Yorkshire- Local Economy* September 2010 vol. 25 no. 7 535-557
37. Ian Bache , *Europeanization and Britain: Towards Multi-level Governance? -*, Department of Politics , University of Sheffield , England, Paper prepared for the EUSA 9th Biennial Conference in Austin, Texas, March 31-April 2, 2005
38. Higgott, A. (2000)., *Birmingham: Building the modern city*, in Dekker, T. (ed.) *The Modern city revisited* Spon, London,
39. Larkham, P.J. (2007). *Replanning Birmingham: process and product in post-war reconstruction* Working Paper 2, Faculty of Law, Humanities, Development and Society, UCE Birmingham,
40. *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister 2004.
41. *Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham: Population, Housing & Employment projections 2005 – 2035*, Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Commission, December 2008.
42. Thilo Lang., *Insights in the British Debate about Urban Decline and Urban Regeneration*, IRS December 2005,



“Eventually, the world will no longer be divided by the ideologies of ‘left’ and ‘right’, but by those who accept ecological limits and those who don’t”.

– Wolfgang Sachs, Wuppertal Institute

“.....Its time to develop policies and strategies which will induce coordiation and co-operation ,and not competition between economy and environment.....”



Thanks for your attention