

**ANNEX 2 TO WIDER SOUTH EAST ROUNDTABLES - DISCUSSION PAPER
- REFINING THE SCOPE AND PURPOSES OF POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT -**

The first roundtable in July 2015 asked for additional briefing – below - to help refine the scope and purposes of political engagement between South East (SE), East of England (E) and London. This will help inform discussion on the format of engagement and resources. In July members wanted a bottom-up system of engaging politically that focuses on issues of genuinely collective strategic Wider South East (WSE) significance i.e. those which cannot be dealt with by local working. This short annex gives some suggestions for debate at the September Roundtables.

Policy issue	Proposed focus	What could a political mechanism deliver?	What evidence could be needed?
Housing	<p>London Plan review and relation with WSE Local Plans, needs and issues eg. land constraints/protected land.</p> <p>Delivery of locally approved housing plans in London, SE and E.</p>	<p>WSE early and ongoing political input to London Plan housing growth options re relationship/opportunities/implications for areas outside the capital.</p> <p>Joint political influencing to tackle barriers to delivery.</p>	<p>Shared understanding of demographic and household projections. Could GLA's existing work be adapted to also meet SE and E needs?</p> <p>Shared understanding of pros and cons of different London Plan growth options eg. implications for WSE local growth plans, infrastructure and environmental priorities.</p> <p>Understanding barriers to delivery and ways to tackle these eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to increase local influence on skills funding to meet construction sector needs. • Impact of allowing local 'use it/lose it/pay for it' planning powers to ensure approved permissions are delivered.
Economy	London Plan review and relation with WSE local economic plans/ambitions and LEP priorities.	WSE early and ongoing input to London Plan economic priorities/employment locations and their implications/opportunities for areas outside the capital.	Shared understanding of economic projections and strategic economic priorities where joint working may be beneficial eg. key growth sectors or strategic infrastructure to support economic growth.
Strategic transport	Funding and delivery of large-scale mutually beneficial WSE strategic transport schemes.	Agreement on key strategic schemes, and joint lobbying to secure funding and delivery.	<p>Shared understanding of travel/commuting patterns – both radial and orbital - and the pros and cons of commuting for local economies.</p> <p>Shared information re costs, economic, environmental and other benefits of investment.</p>
Other infrastructure and services	Co-ordination of other infrastructure and public services affected by cross-boundary growth/use, eg. schools, health, water supply/treatment, waste etc.	<p>Mechanisms to ensure delivery eg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint work to make the case for funding/devolution powers to deliver public service needs arising from growth. • Joint work with utility providers. 	<p>Shared strategic understanding of levels of service/utility needs and investment required. Build on existing mechanisms where possible eg. waste officer advisory groups.</p> <p>Mechanisms and timetables for jointly engaging with utilities/other service providers to influence their investment plans.</p>