

Wider South East Political Steering Group **Terms of Reference**

East of England Local Government Association (EELGA) nominates five members representing the East of England, South East England Councils (SEEC) nominates five members representing the South East of England and the Greater London Authority (GLA) and London Councils jointly nominate five members representing London. Members will meet 2-3 times per year. The group will have a rotating chair, and agendas/paperwork and arising work will be jointly prepared and agreed.

The purpose of the Steering Group is to initiate, steer and agree strategic collaboration activities across the Wider South East (WSE) – defined as East of England, South East of England and London.

The Steering Group will

1. Be a forum for political oversight and debate on key issues arising from the Summit, including identifying opportunities for engagement, joint working and input to the London Plan process;
2. Be accountable to the annual Summit as well as its constituent membership bodies addressing actions identified by the Summit but also propose key issues for discussion to the Summit;
3. Prioritise work and resources and take forward agreed joint projects, including tasking officers to pursue strategic actions on behalf of the WSE and oversee their progress. Also keep oversight of functions, terms and membership of the Officer Working Group, which serves the needs of the Political Steering Group and the Summit;
4. Advise on the need for any additional thematically/geographically focused working groups beyond existing groupings to address strategic issues;
5. Oversee an effective engagement network to underpin communication between the bodies and members involved to ensure progress on agreed actions is made between meetings; it is also important to provide regular updates for all WSE Leaders.
6. Use the collective influence of the Political Steering Group to further joint strategic goals with Government and other stakeholders;
7. Be informed of the work of relevant other groups and organisations that relate to the priorities of the WSE.