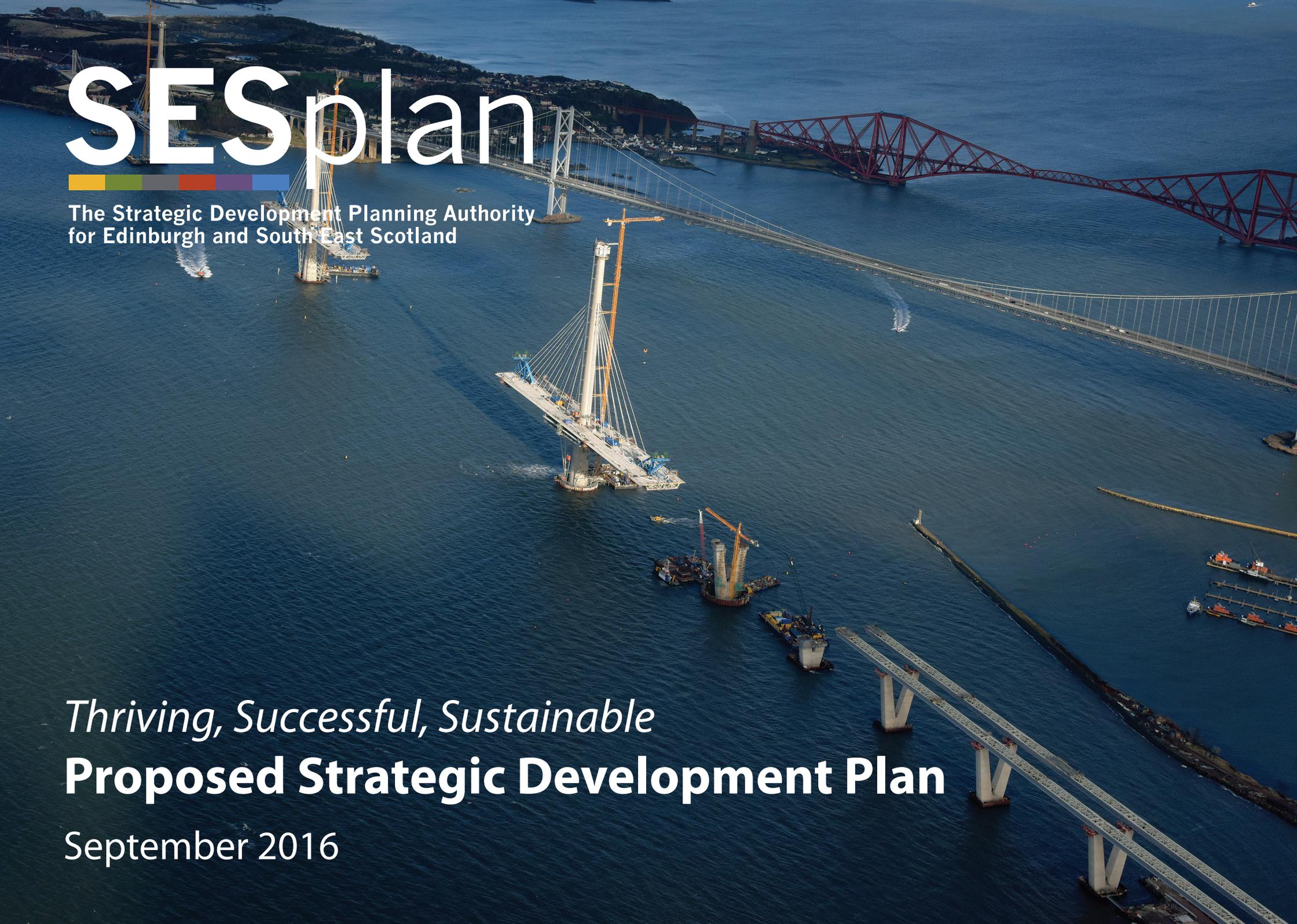


APPENDIX 1 – PROPOSED STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN



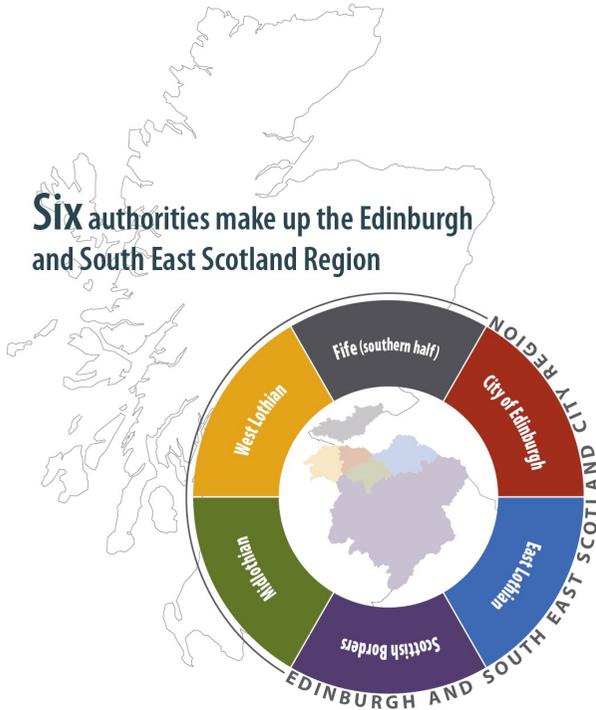
SESpian

The Strategic Development Planning Authority
for Edinburgh and South East Scotland

Thriving, Successful, Sustainable
Proposed Strategic Development Plan

September 2016

Six authorities make up the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Region



SESplan and the Strategic Development Plan

SESplan is the Strategic Development Planning Authority for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland region. The region covers six council areas including City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian, West Lothian, the Scottish Borders and the southern half of Fife. SESplan works in partnership with these six councils to prepare a Strategic Development Plan for the area.

A Strategic Development Plan is a statutory planning document which is prepared or updated every five years and covers a twenty year time period. It communicates strategic level and cross-boundary planning policy and applies national policy and guidance from the Scottish Government. It is used to inform the Local Development Plans prepared by each of the Local Authorities in the region.

SESplan

Have Your Say

SESplan is currently at a key stage in the preparation of the replacement Strategic Development Plan where we publish the Proposed Strategic Development Plan. The Proposed Strategic Development Plan is effectively a draft plan which represents our settled view on the final content of the replacement Plan. It has been informed by the responses received during the [Main Issues Report](#) consultation which took place between 21 July and 30 September 2015.

We are now inviting formal comments to be made on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan. At this stage representations should be limited to explaining what changes you consider should be made to the plan along with justification for the proposed changes.

The Proposed Strategic Development Plan publication period runs from XX September to XX October 2016. If you wish to submit a representation you should do so through the SESplan consultation Portal: sesplan.objective.co.uk/portal.

In line with Scottish Government advice, the detail of each representation should be expressed in a concise way (no more than 2,000 words). A concise summary is also required (up to a maximum of 400 words), together with the change that is sought to the Proposed Plan.

Following completion of the publication period, SESplan is required to address all the representations and decide if any of them warrant modification to the Proposed Plan. If no modifications are considered appropriate then all of the representations and SESplan's response to them will be submitted to the Scottish Government alongside the Proposed Plan for examination.

The Proposed Strategic Development Plan and supporting documents can be viewed on the website www.sesplan.gov.uk, in public libraries, local planning authority offices and at the SESplan office at:

SESplan, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6FF

For more information, or if you are unable to submit a representation through the Consultation Portal, please contact us on 01506 282883 or contactus@sesplan.gov.uk

To keep up-to-date you can sign up to our mailing list, follow us on Twitter @SESplan or like us on Facebook.

Foreword and Introduction

This plan sets out an ambitious vision to guide the growth of the South East Scotland region over the next 20 years. Our vision is for a city region that is easier to move around and where there are better public transport options. The success of Edinburgh's Trams and the Borders Railway has demonstrated that people will choose non-car options where a good service is available, with consequent benefits to our environment, health and economy. However, if we're to deliver a better transport system for everyone, we need to step up the pace of the delivery of transport infrastructure, particularly for public transport, walking and cycling and find new ways to pay for it. This plan sets out a number of proposals to help us do that.

Recognising the challenge of meeting people's needs for a home, member authorities have worked together to ensure that the targets for housing delivery are ambitious, but achievable. A spatial strategy focused on growth corridors with good public transport will ensure that this housing will be directed to the right places. A series of placemaking principles and a plan-led approach to green networks means that this growth can be delivered without damaging the natural assets that make the region a great place to live, work and visit.

The announcement that a City Region Deal for our region will be developed, in partnership with the UK and Scottish Governments, means that there will be opportunities to fund and deliver infrastructure in more innovative ways in the years ahead. The partner authorities are committed to an ambitious proposal to deliver a step change in the region's economic performance. We will play our full part in that process and make use of the fiscal powers to ensure that this region continues to be the best place to live in Scotland.

Councillor Stuart Bell

Convenor SESplan



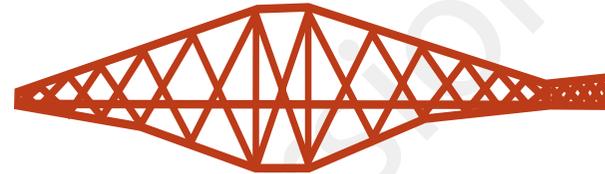
Distinctive Heritage and Culture

Home to over half of the top **20** most visited attractions in Scotland and 1 in the UK top **10**



Festival City – Edinburgh hosts the largest annual cultural festival in the world. Generating over **£260** million in the Scottish economy

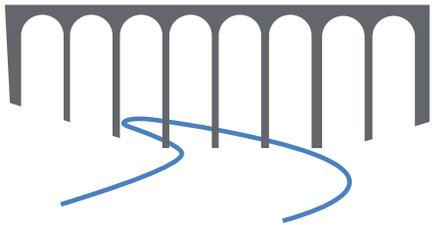
Two UNESCO World Heritage Sites - **Old and New Towns of Edinburgh** and the Forth Bridge



Scotland's Golf Coast
Musselburgh to Dunbar

A World Class Environment

Two National Scenic Areas - Eildon & Leaderfoot and Upper Tweedale

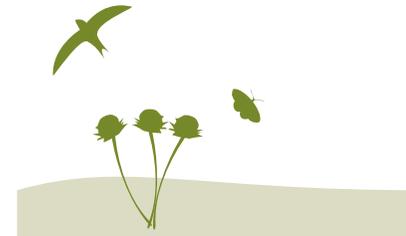


Tweed Valley Forrest Park - including Glentress Mountain Biking Centre

Pentland Hills Regional Park - Edinburgh's Playground & Lomond Hills Regional Park - Fife's playground!



3 National Nature Reserves - Blawhorn Moss, Whitlaw Mosses & St Abb's Head



Over **20** Natura Sites - Protected Areas of European Importance including most of the Firth of Forth Coast and Islands

A Smart Economy

City Region contributes over **£33** billion of Gross Added Value to Scotland's economy. **26%** of the country's output



Edinburgh is the second most prosperous city in the UK (2013)

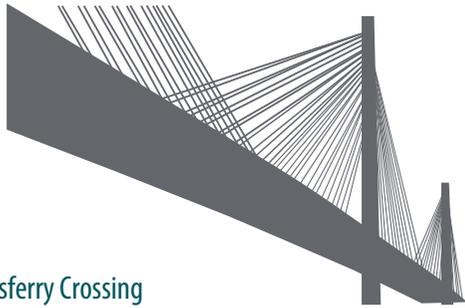


There is a skilled workforce **31.7%** working age population educated to degree or equivalent level (Scotland 26.4%) and we are home to **4** major universities

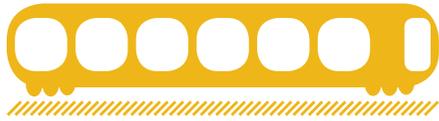
The city is a centre for excellence for financial services and the region is one of the UK's leading technology hubs



Advanced Engineering and Infrastructure



The Queensferry Crossing is the longest three-tower, cable-stayed bridge in the world and the **tallest bridge in UK.**



Borders Railway - longest domestic railway constructed in Britain for over **100** years.

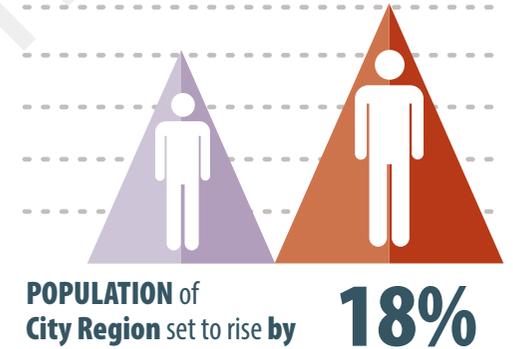


Edinburgh Airport
Scotland's Busiest Airport
with over **11** million
passengers

A Region of Opportunities



SESplan Assets



City Region Vision for 2038

Thriving, Successful, Sustainable

Sustainable growth has been achieved by carefully managing those assets that provide the most benefits and by making well designed, successful places where people can thrive. More people are able to afford a home in a place near where they work. A series of cross-boundary transport projects has made travel by public transport easier and more people are cycling and walking to work. The economy continues to grow and the region remains an outstanding place to live, work and visit. Communities in the region are healthier and there is less inequality and deprivation.

What Change?

Spatial Strategy

Most growth in and around Edinburgh and in Long Term Growth Corridors

Placemaking in the city region

Rural Growth Areas

Green Belts

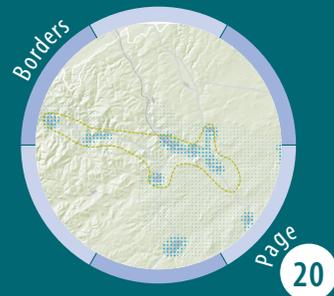
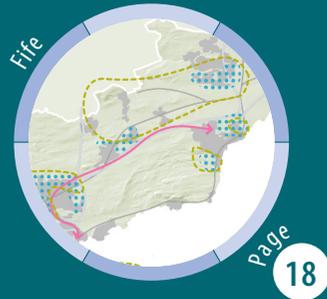
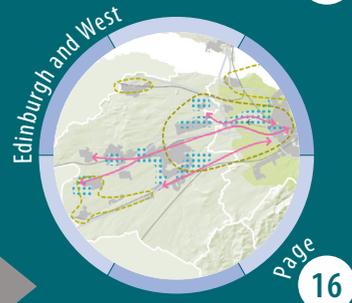
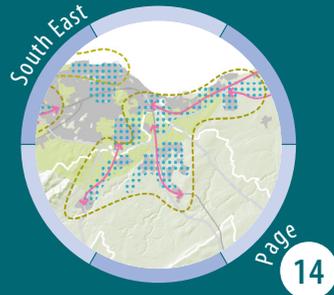
Cross-Boundary Green Networks

Strategic Cross-Boundary Transport Improvements

Key Diagram, page 11. Placemaking Principles, page 13.

Where?

Key Areas of Change



How?

Delivery Themes

Strategic Opportunities

Outcomes

A Place to do Business

Locations for Investment
page 23

Improved employment opportunities and a more productive workforce

A Low Carbon Economy
page 30

Impacts from climate change minimised and carbon reduction targets met

Increasing Housing Delivery
page 34

Well-designed homes that meet more of the need for affordable housing

A Place for Communities

Thriving Town Centres
page 41

Vibrant town centres

Enhanced Green Networks
page 42

Reduced health and education inequalities

Supporting Non-Car Travel
page 45

More people use public transport and journey times are quicker

A Better Connected Place

Regional Walking and Cycling
page 46

Walking and cycling account for a bigger proportion of journeys

Strategic Transport Improvements
page 48

2 The Vision

Delivering the Vision

2.1 The Strategic Development Plan will help achieve the SESplan vision by:

- Providing direction to Local Development Plans in the city region. Specific directions to Local Development Plans are emboldened and begin "**Local Development Plans will...**"
- Providing a context for development management – all planning applications have to be determined in accordance with the Development Plan⁽¹⁾ unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Specific statements relevant to development management are emboldened and begin "**Development should...**" or "**Development must...**"

- Influencing and supporting investment plans, strategic plans and other strategies affecting the region
- Identifying key strategic actions in the plan and in the SESplan Action Programme. Specific statements committing **individual SESplan member authorities to take action begin "SESplan member authorities will..."**. Statements committing SESplan to take action begin "**SESplan will...**"

SESplan Action Programme

2.2 Many of the actions needed to deliver this plan are already set out in the action programmes related to each of the Local Development Plans in the city region. The SESplan Action Programme published alongside this plan will therefore focus on actions:

- to deliver cross-boundary infrastructure and infrastructure of regional importance
- to help deliver national developments
- that require the input and coordination of more than one local planning authority to deliver

¹ The Development Plan for each of the local authority areas within this city region comprises the relevant Local Development Plan and the Strategic Development Plan (supported by relevant supplementary guidance)

City Region Deal

2.3 The member authorities are currently engaged in negotiations to conclude a 'City Region Deal' for the city region. This is a deal between the Scottish Government, UK Government and SESplan member authorities that allows greater fiscal autonomy on the basis of an investment programme that demonstrates additional economic growth. It is likely that this investment will help deliver some of the infrastructure needed in areas already allocated for development.

2.4 It is too early to predict the impact of this potential new investment on the economy of the region or the extent to which economic growth may affect housing demand. However, taking into account the potential opportunities, this plan includes ambitious housing targets and a generous housing land requirement. These reflect estimates of housing demand based on an economic future where the public and private sector provide the kind of strong leadership that is a key feature of City Region Deal. **The impact of any City Region Deal on the pace of economic growth and any consequent impacts on the amount of development land required will be considered in relation to subsequent plans and strategies related to infrastructure delivery.**



Spatial Strategy

The Spatial Strategy

Most growth in and around Edinburgh and in Long Term Growth Corridors

3.1 Over the next 20 years, most growth will be focused in and around Edinburgh and in indicative Long Term Growth Corridors (See Figure 3.1). The City of Edinburgh will meet a larger proportion of the region's housing need than in previous plans. This will help minimise commuting by car and reduce transport related carbon emissions, as well as making best use of existing infrastructure. 'A Place for Communities' (page 33) sets out the housing land requirement for each local authority area in the period 2018-2030 and provides an indication of the scale of housing land required beyond 2030.

Strategic Growth 2018-2030

3.2 For the next 12 years, the need for strategic growth will be largely met by land already identified in existing and proposed Local Development Plans. The key diagram identifies the broad location of this as 'Strategic Growth 2018-2030'. Most of this will occur in and around Edinburgh and along transport corridors.

Growth Beyond 2030

3.3 Beyond 2030, growth will be directed to locations in and around Edinburgh, locations along Long Term Growth Corridors and settlements within Rural Growth Areas. The purpose of the Long Term Growth Corridors is to direct growth to those transport corridors of primary importance for long term strategic growth. Rural Growth Areas identify those rural settlements in the Scottish Borders with potential for long term growth. The Placemaking Principles set out in Table 3.1 will be relevant over the long term and subsequent Strategic Development Plans will also include Placemaking Principles that guide the location and scale of development.

3.4 If required to do so on the basis of future assessments, subsequent Strategic Development Plans will identify more specific locations suitable for further strategic growth in line with this long term growth strategy and the Placemaking Principles. In doing so they may direct subsequent Local Development Plans to release land, including land from the green belt, at locations along the Long Term Growth Corridors. These Local Development Plans may give more explicit policy protection to green networks in the remaining 'green wedges', in a way that recognises the full range of benefits and services that green networks provide (para. 5.20).

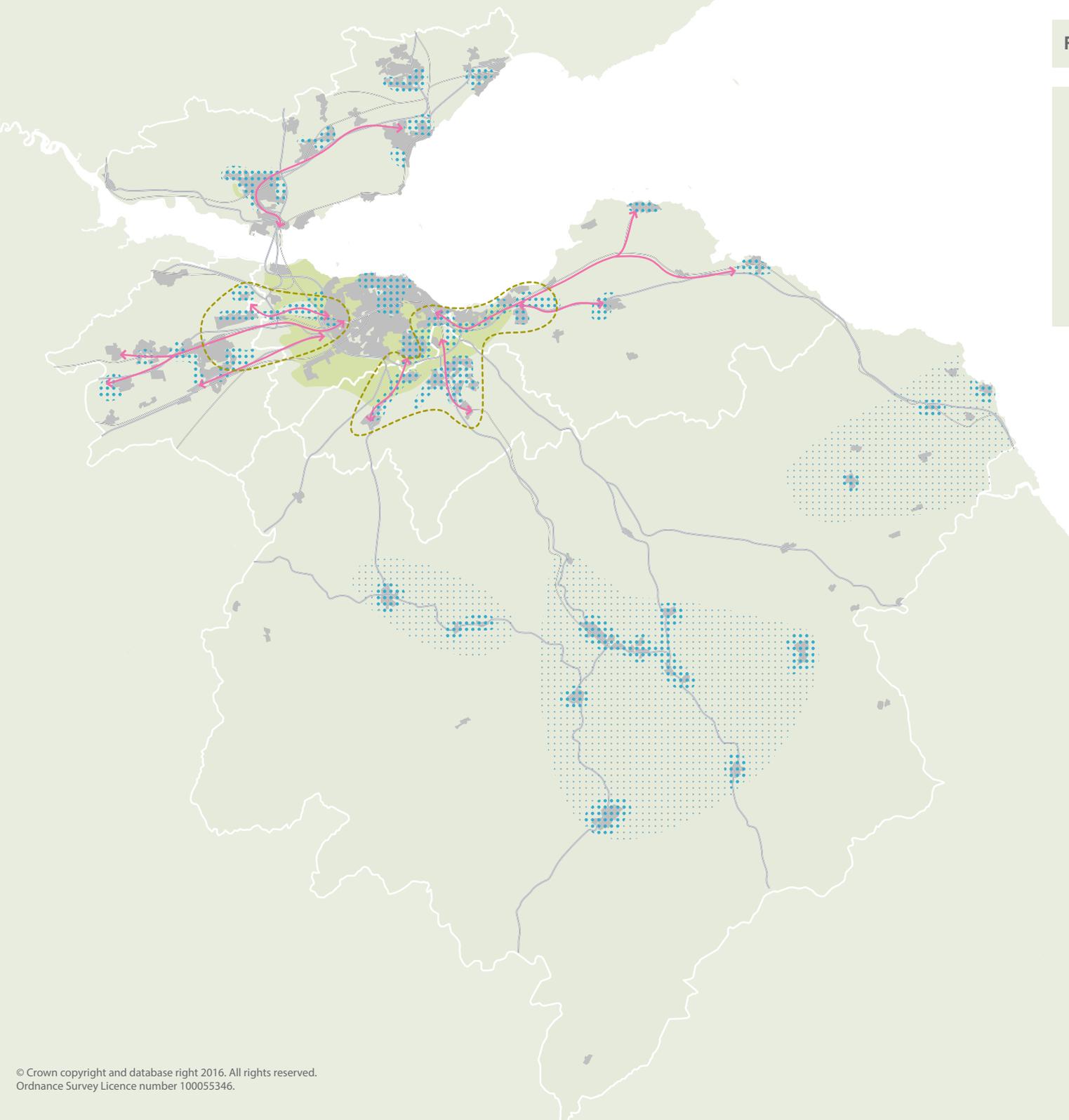
Placemaking in the City Region

3.5 Placemaking is a collaborative process that includes design, development and renewal of our urban and rural built environments. Good places play a fundamental role in attracting investment and supporting economic growth, promoting healthy lifestyles and providing a sense of identity and community. **SESplan member authorities will ensure that communities are involved in the design and shaping of development at an early stage, using tools such as the Place Standard to engage local people in conversations about what places should be like.**

3.6 **Development should take account of the Placemaking Principles set out in Table 3.1. Local Development Plans will include development frameworks, masterplans and design briefs that are aligned with relevant community plans and have been developed jointly with local people. Local Development Plans will be guided by the Placemaking Principles detailed in Table 3.1. and ensure that all international, national and locally designated areas are afforded the appropriate level of protection.** The City Region Assets on page 4 illustrate many of the key natural and historic assets of international, national and regional importance.

Figure 3.1 Key Diagram

- Strategic Growth 2018-2030
- Long Term Growth Corridor 2030+
- Rural Growth Areas
- Cross-boundary Green Network Priority Areas
- Green Belt



Strategic Cross-Boundary Transport Improvements

3.7 Increasing traffic congestion has a major impact on movement into Edinburgh but also on movement to and between the western and south eastern fringes of the city. While the majority of these congested areas lie within the City of Edinburgh boundary, many of the journeys that contribute to that congestion are generated in the other SESplan member authority areas. This plan sets out some of the key strategic transport improvements that are likely to be needed to address these cumulative and cross-boundary impacts. It also sets out the principles underpinning a Cross-Boundary Transport Contributions Framework, to be established through Supplementary Guidance, and the matters that the guidance will address.

Green Belts and Related Countryside Designations

3.8 Figure 3.1 Identifies the broad location of the existing green belts around Edinburgh and to the west of Dunfermline. **Local Development Plans will identify and maintain green belts and other countryside designations fulfilling a similar function where they are needed:**

- **To maintain the identity, character and landscape setting of settlements and prevent coalescence**
- **To protect and provide access to open space**
- **To direct development to the most appropriate location and support regeneration**

In doing so, Local Development Plans will take into account any relevant guidance on green networks.

Cross-Boundary Green Networks

3.9 Two Cross-Boundary Green Network Priority Areas have been identified to focus action on places where a coordinated, cross-boundary approach is needed to maximise the benefits of green infrastructure. **SESplan will prepare Strategic Frameworks for two cross-boundary Green Network Priority Areas (Edinburgh and West, Edinburgh and East) and adopt the frameworks as Supplementary Guidance to the plan. These frameworks will:**

- **Identify and safeguard those elements of the green network that provide, or have the potential to provide, the greatest benefits for people and nature**
- **Identify strategic enhancements to green networks that will add value to existing settlements, developments for which land has already been allocated and any new allocations in subsequent Local Development Plans**
- **Provide an additional context for planning decisions**

3 The Spatial Strategy

Table 3.1 Placemaking Principles

Distinctive	Areas important for maintaining the character, landscape setting and distinctive identity of existing and proposed settlements should be protected and enhanced, particularly where they are needed to avoid the coalescence of settlements. The contribution of the natural and historic environment to making distinctive places should be maximised. Key views of the surrounding landscape should be integrated into developments to provide a sense of place and identity. Views of the Southern Uplands, the Lammermuir Hills, the Firth of Forth, the Pentland Hills, the Lomond Hills, the Bathgate Hills and key the landmarks of Edinburgh are particularly important in supporting a sense of place and making settlements distinctive.
Safe and Pleasant	Public spaces should be free from excessive traffic noise and air pollution and the needs of people should be considered before the movement of motor vehicles. Public spaces should be overlooked by housing, so that the people who use them feel safe and the people who live nearby feel a sense of ownership. It should be easy for people to access green/open space, including places where they can enjoy nature. Developments should be located within a network of green and blue infrastructure that provides a pleasant outlook for the people living and working there.
Welcoming	Gateways into settlements and extensions to existing settlements should be interesting, memorable and contribute to local distinctiveness. A wide range of public spaces of different types and character, accessible to all, should be provided that appeal to people of different ages and with different interests. Neighbourhood centres should include attractive and safe indoor and outdoor spaces where people can interact.
Adaptable	Development should be located where a wide range of densities, tenures and uses can be supported to meet the changing needs of the community into the future. Green networks should be multi-functional. They should comprise infrastructure that provides a range of benefits and can be adapted and enhanced depending on the local need for growing spaces, play spaces, natural spaces, public parks, sustainable urban drainage and the need to adapt to climate change.
Resource Efficient	New development should be located near existing public transport hubs, or in locations where there are planned infrastructure projects to enable easy access to the public transport network. The re-use or re-development of brownfield land should be considered before new development takes place on greenfield land, including Prime Agricultural Land and other land important for food production. Development should be located and orientated to maximise passive solar heating and opportunities for solar power generation. Heat mapping and other approaches should be used to identify opportunities to co-locate sources of high heat demand (e.g. housing) with sustainable sources of heat supply (e.g. biomass power plants). Development should be located away from functional flood plains and areas of medium to high flood risk. Areas important for flood storage and conveying capacity should be safeguarded for a range of compatible uses such as recreation, water quality management, flood attenuation and habitat creation. Development should be designed to minimise the area of impermeable surface and incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as appropriate.
Easy to Move Around	There should be good walking and cycling networks close to where people live, providing safe and convenient access to local facilities and to public transport stops. There should be a range of public transport options that provide easy access into Edinburgh, strategic centres, town centres, local centres and centres of employment. Developments should integrate with, and contribute to, the enhancement of walking and cycling networks.

Key Areas of Change South East

3.10 Edinburgh city and the Long Term Growth Corridors radiating east and south east encompass a range of strategic development opportunities over the next 20 years. The challenge in this area is to ensure that infrastructure is delivered that enables existing allocated sites to fulfil their potential.

3.11 Edinburgh Waterfront remains a high priority for growth. The tram extension to Leith and Granton and the establishment of an attractive cycleway and footpath is fundamental to achieving a thriving low carbon waterfront community connected to the city.

3.12 Blindwells could benefit from interventions to accelerate its development. If Blindwells is capable of expansion beyond the current allocation, it could become one of the largest investment opportunities in south east Scotland, potentially delivering over 6,000 homes, employment opportunities and a strategic town centre serving the wider area. Realising these opportunities will require further planning studies and close cooperation between landowners and the public sector. In particular, more effective partnership working is needed to deliver the education and transport infrastructure required to unlock its full

economic potential and enable it to contribute to the regeneration of neighbouring communities in the west of East Lothian.

3.13 Sites around existing East Lothian settlements will provide a significant amount of land to meet the requirements of the emerging East Lothian Local Development Plan. Once the development anticipated around Musselburgh is delivered, environmental and infrastructure constraints are expected to limit further significant expansion of settlements in the Musselburgh area. Any further development requirements for East Lothian will be dispersed to locations further east along the Long Term Growth Corridors. Subject to future growth requirements for East Lothian, there may be a need for a second new settlement in the east of East Lothian.

3.14 Shawfair station is at the centre of what will be a new community in Midlothian with the potential to deliver over 4,000 new homes and significant new employment land over the next 20 years. The scale of the proposal means there will be opportunities to provide more innovative low carbon power and heat solutions to support a more sustainable place. Eskbank station will provide ready access to the Midlothian Community Hospital and a ten minute rail link between Edinburgh College campuses in Midlothian. New transport links from Shawfair station to the Royal Infirmary

of Edinburgh will be needed to deliver benefits to patients and visitors from Midlothian and the Scottish Borders.

3.15 A modified A1 junction and underpass near Queen Margaret University will enable land adjacent to the university to be developed to support the Innovation and Science Cluster. This land also provides opportunities for start ups with a focus on life sciences, research and learning and food and drink. Improved capacity and rail services on the East Coast line and new rail stations at East Linton and Blindwells will help reduce commuting by road.

3.16 Leith is a strong location for large scale manufacturing, installation, operations and maintenance for the renewables industry as well as a centre for the creative industries. The former Cockenzie Power Station site is not currently subject to specific proposals for carbon capture and storage and thermal generation. It remains part of an Area of Coordinated Action, but relevant stakeholders should consider a wider range of potential future uses for this site. The BioQuarter, Bush and BioCampus are key elements of the Edinburgh Science Triangle, one of the top ten research and development locations in Europe. They offer opportunities for academic, commercial and clinical research and a range of expansion opportunities for technology and bio-industries.

3 The Spatial Strategy

The tram line extension to the BioQuarter, Newcraighall and Queen Margaret University would provide a major contribution to reducing traffic into and out of Edinburgh.

3.17 Midlothian, City of Edinburgh and East Lothian Councils will work together to take a plan-led approach to identifying and, where possible, enhancing the key green infrastructure around the periphery of Edinburgh. The priorities for action include addressing the City Bypass as a barrier to active travel and upgrading cycle routes on the A199 to become a strategic functional cycle route, providing an artery linking East Lothian with Edinburgh. Green Belts and Countryside Around Town designations will provide the framework for establishing and maintaining a high quality landscape setting for existing and future settlements and identifying and safeguarding key strategic areas of open space.

3.18 In order to deal with what is one of the region's major challenges in delivering sustainable growth, a range of transport interventions are likely to be needed. These include major upgrades to the A720, other improvements to the strategic road and rail networks and improvements to local road networks. Major upgrades to walking and cycling infrastructure and public transport provision will also be needed to encourage more people to leave their car at home for journeys into and around Edinburgh.