

# Centre for Urban Policy Studies



#### 'A MAP FOR ENGLAND'

SPATIAL SYNERGIES AND CONFLICTS: GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES IN ENGLAND

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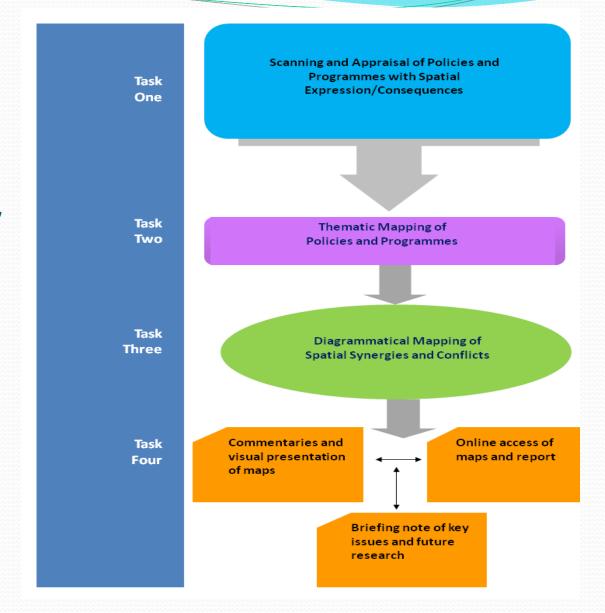
Centre for Urban Policy Studies (CUPS) the University of Manchester

The third report over the last 10 years with the RTPI

#### What is the report about?

- To appraise government policies and programmes (including agencies and NDPBs) with an explicit spatial expression and/or spatial consequences.
- To perform thematic mapping of government policies and programmes that have an explicit spatial expression and/or consequences.
- To identify and map the patterns of spatial synergies and conflicts arising from existing government policies and programmes
- To highlight key issues and further research work required to fully address the need of providing a spatial framework to support the development of NPPF and the delivery of the

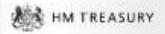
#### Methodology





Draft National Planning Policy Framework

deliberately, and unrelentingly, aspatial in content and contains very limited cross references to any of the other, more spatially explicit, statements of national policy



#### National Infrastructure Plan 2011

projects, programmes and funding sources are explicitly **spatially targeted**, but does not present or analyse this spatial targeting in a cross-sectoral or integrated manner







concentrates a substantial amount of attention and financial resources on eight designated English core cities and their surrounding functional areas

## .... a partial picture of sectorally-based spatial development:

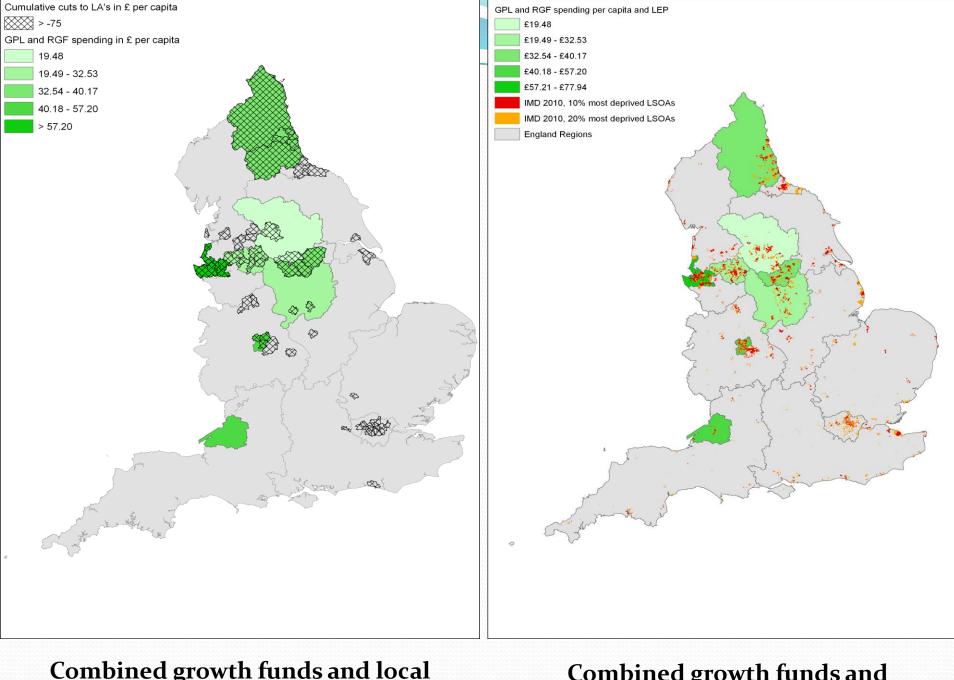
- the degree to which the national road, rail and digital communication proposals will, in combination, concentrate resources along particular strategic corridors and/or complement the potential concentration of resources on eight core cities remain unanswered....
- .... the relationships between these and other issues (e.g. the location of new power stations; future airport capacity etc.) and the spatial context of environmental constraints (e.g. national parks, AONBs, nature conservation sites) and risks (e.g. flooding, drought) are not explored at the national level....
- .... nor are they considered in the context of future population projections, house prices and affordability, unemployment, levels of deprivation and so on....

#### Think spatially, Act spatially .....

- .... little understanding is shown of how these sectoral issues might complement or conflict with each other, creating synergies or tensions that might lead to future successes or failures in delivery and implementation ....
- .... ultimately contributing to, or frustrating, future economic growth and sustainable development...

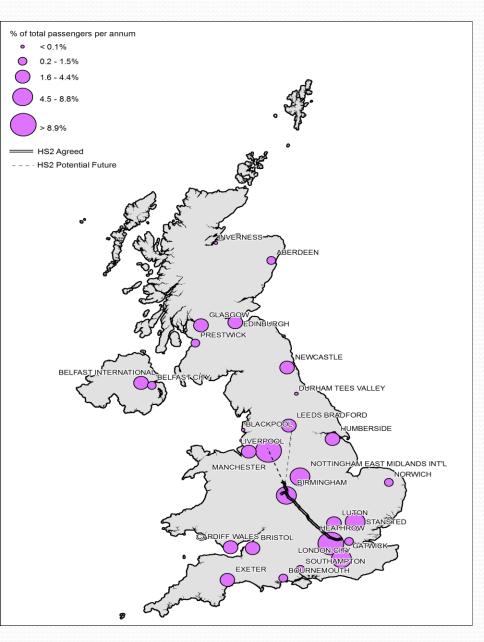
## Three sets of key planning issues were identified for further analysis:

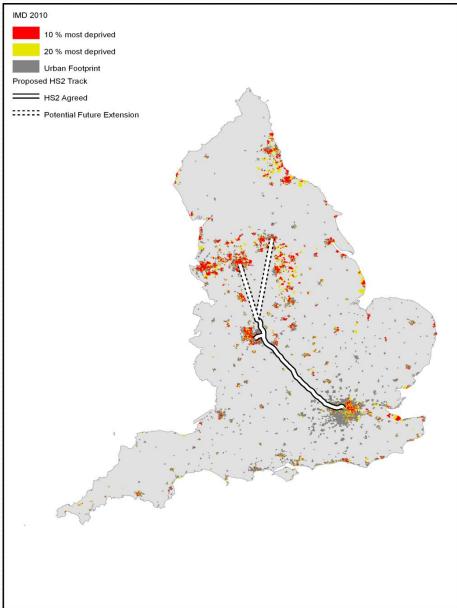
- The Growing Places Fund and Regional Growth Fund;
- The High Speed Rail Link (HS2); and
- Future Housing Delivery



Combined growth funds and local authority funding cuts

Combined growth funds and deprivation

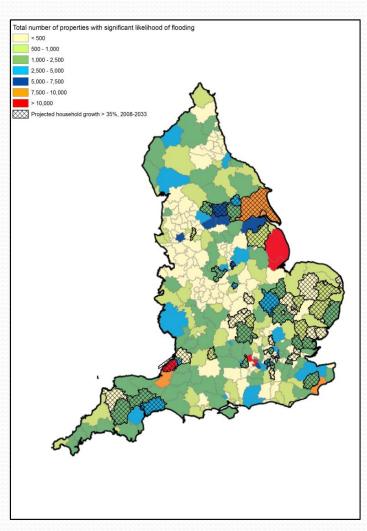


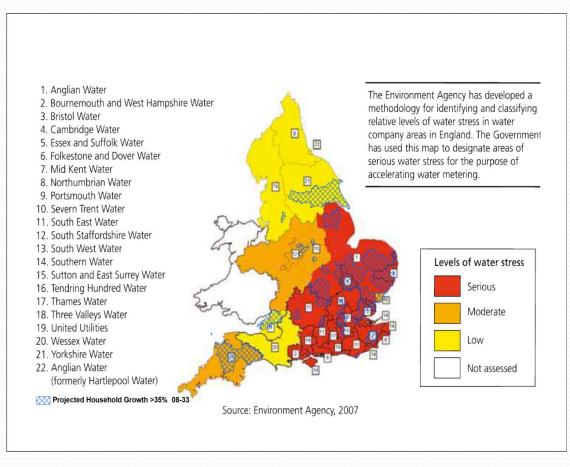


Projected air passengers, 2050 and HS2

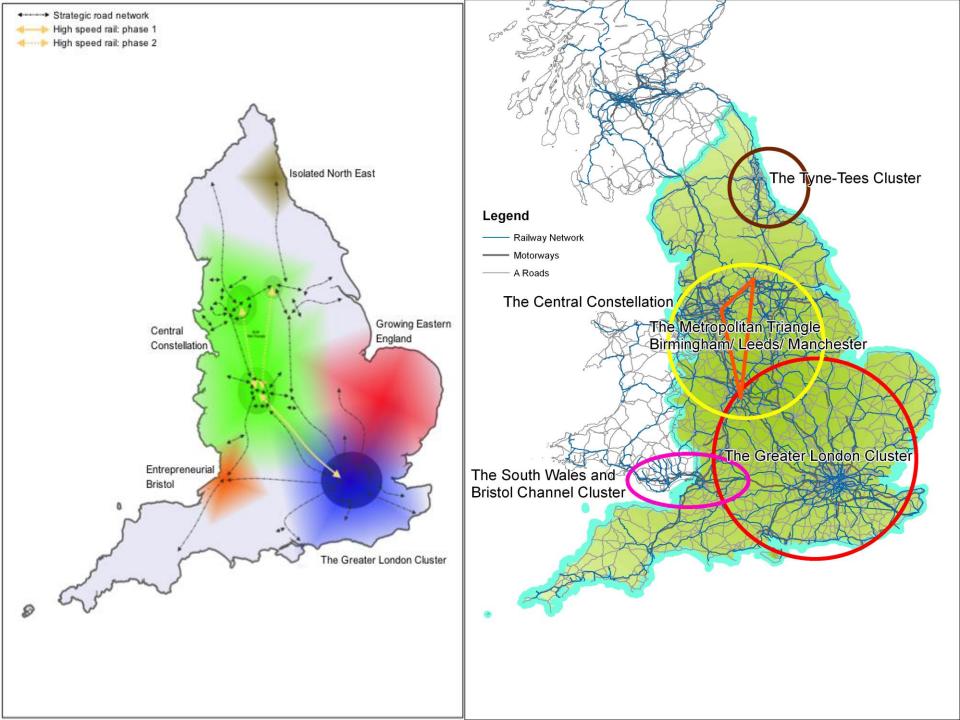
HS2 and most deprived areas

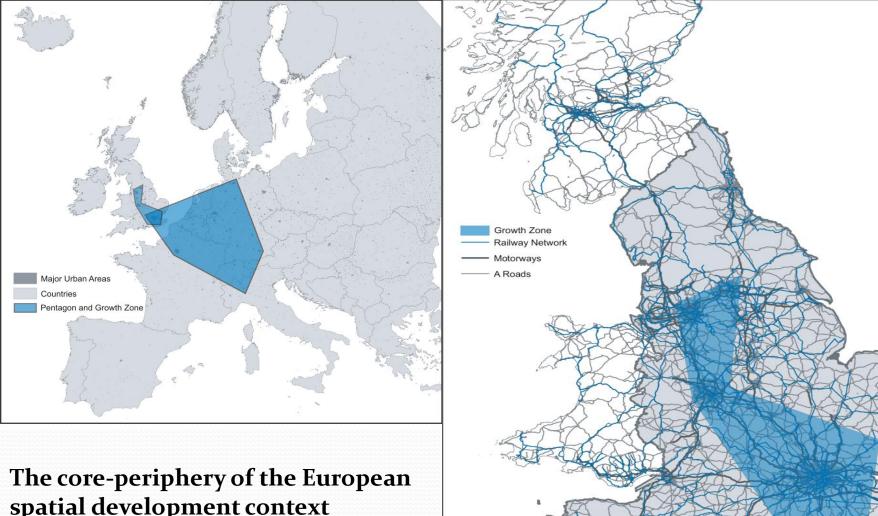
### Flood risk and high household growth projections





Relative water stress level and high household growth projections





spatial development context

#### Reflections and conclusions (1)

- The study examined the interplay between policy needs and spatial contexts via mapping the policies and programmes of Government Departments and their agencies /NDPBs.
- It showed that many government policies and programmes do have strong spatial expression or, more importantly, significant spatial consequences.
- Making these spatial challenges and opportunities explicit can help inform policy debate and encourage partnership working to better coordinate and manage the delivery of very complex spatial planning policies.
- Not articulating the spatial relationships of planning issues can lead to disjointed and ad hoc management of infrastructure and service provisions at the local level.

#### Reflections and conclusions (2)

- The different spatial scenarios and metaphors of the future spatial opportunities and challenges in England and Europe can also serve as a reference point to stimulate policy debate and thinking.
- The study shows that the GIS analytical methodology of spatial synergies, conflicts, challenges and opportunities can be applied to a whole array of planning issues and different sectoral policies at national as well as regional and sub-regional levels to inform policy-thinking.
- It demonstrates the potential function and value of having a national spatial planning framework.

#### http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/5169

