



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

Local Enterprise Partnerships

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Thursday, 11 November 2010

Local Enterprise Partnerships

- Policy Context
- South East Picture
- What LEPs might look like
- LEPs & Sustainability
- Next Steps

Coalition's Economic Ambition



“Business is the driver of economic growth and innovation, and we need to take urgent action to boost enterprise, support green growth and build a new and more responsible economic model”.

“To create a fairer and more balanced economy, less dependent on a narrow range of economic sectors, and where new businesses and economic opportunities are more evenly shared between regions and industries”.

Local Growth



- Shifting power away from central government to local communities, citizens and independent providers.
- Recognising that where drivers of growth are local, decisions should be made locally.



Invitation to Civic Leaders and Business to submit proposals

A bottom up approach with some very broad parameters:

- **Role:** strategic leadership
- **Governance:** business led
- **Size:** functional economic area

 HM Government

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To: Local Authority Leaders and Business Leaders
Cc: Local Authority Chief Executive Offices

29 June 2010

Dear colleagues,

Local enterprise partnerships

We are writing to you to invite you to work with the Government to help strengthen local economies. The Coalition Government is committed to reforming our system of sub-national economic development by enabling councils and business to replace the existing Regional Development Agencies. The purpose of this letter is to invite local groups of councils and business leaders to come together to consider how you wish to form local enterprise partnerships.

We are working with the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) to enable this transition. We are reviewing all the functions of the RDAs. We believe some of these are best led nationally, such as inward investment, sector leadership, responsibility for business support, innovation, and access to finance, such as venture capital funds. Some of their existing roles are being scrapped, such as Regional Strategies. The forthcoming White Paper on sub-national economic growth will set out our approach in more detail.

Separate arrangements will apply in London, where discussions are currently underway with the Mayor of London on how we can further decentralise powers, particularly in the context of the abolition of the Government Office for London.

We are determined that the transition from the existing RDAs be orderly, working to a clear timetable.

Meanwhile, we are keen to encourage local businesses and councils to work together to develop their proposals for local enterprise partnerships. We want to encourage a wide range of ideas, and to aid that, we would suggest some parameters.

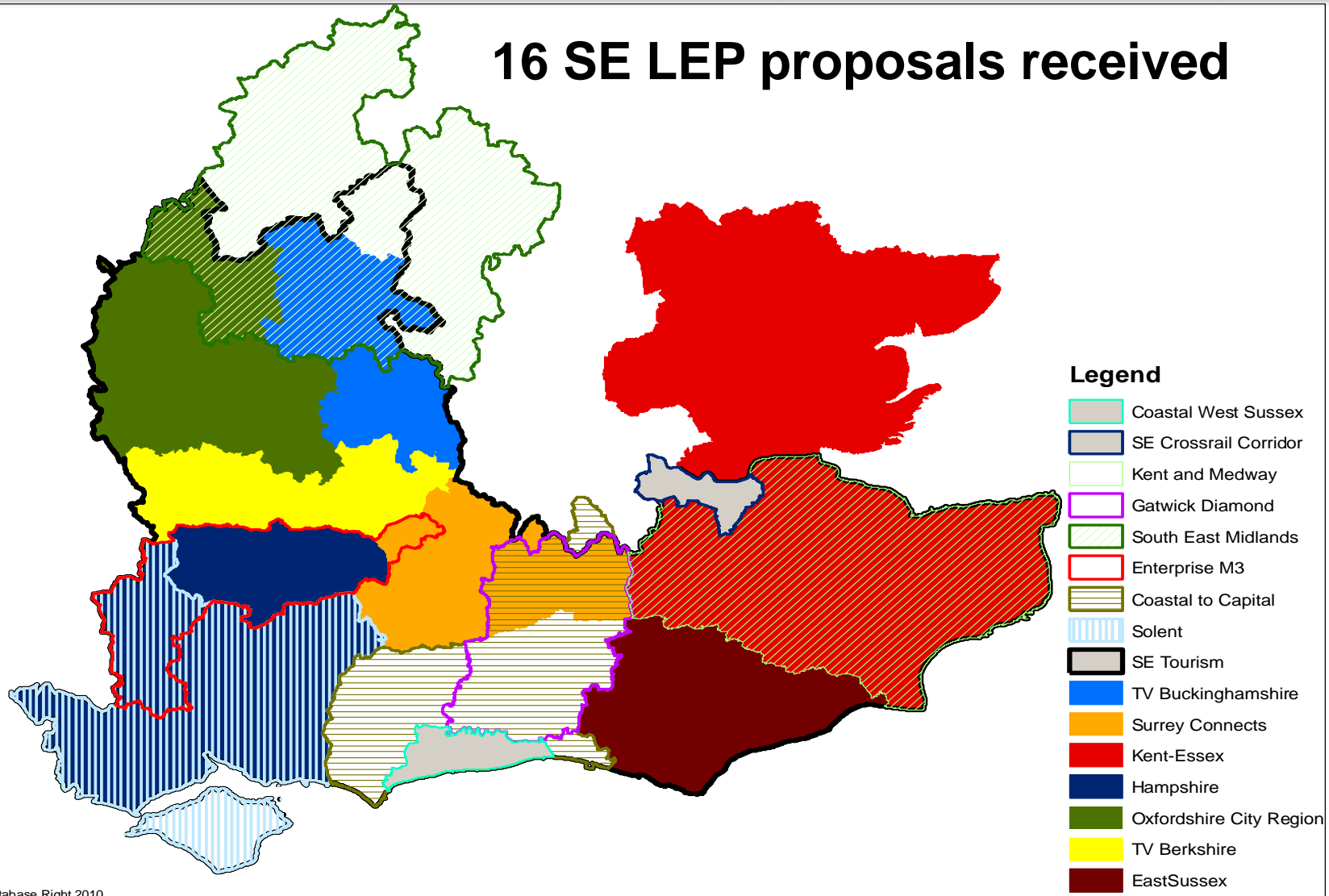
Role

We anticipate that local enterprise partnerships will wish to provide the strategic leadership in their areas to set out local economic priorities. A clear vision is vital if local economic renewal is to be achieved. The Coalition Government is determined to rebalance the

The RT Hon Dr Vince Cable MP
Secretary of State for Business,
Innovation and Skills
and President of the Board of Trade

The RT Hon Eric Pickles MP
Secretary of State for
Communities and Local Government

16 SE LEP proposals received

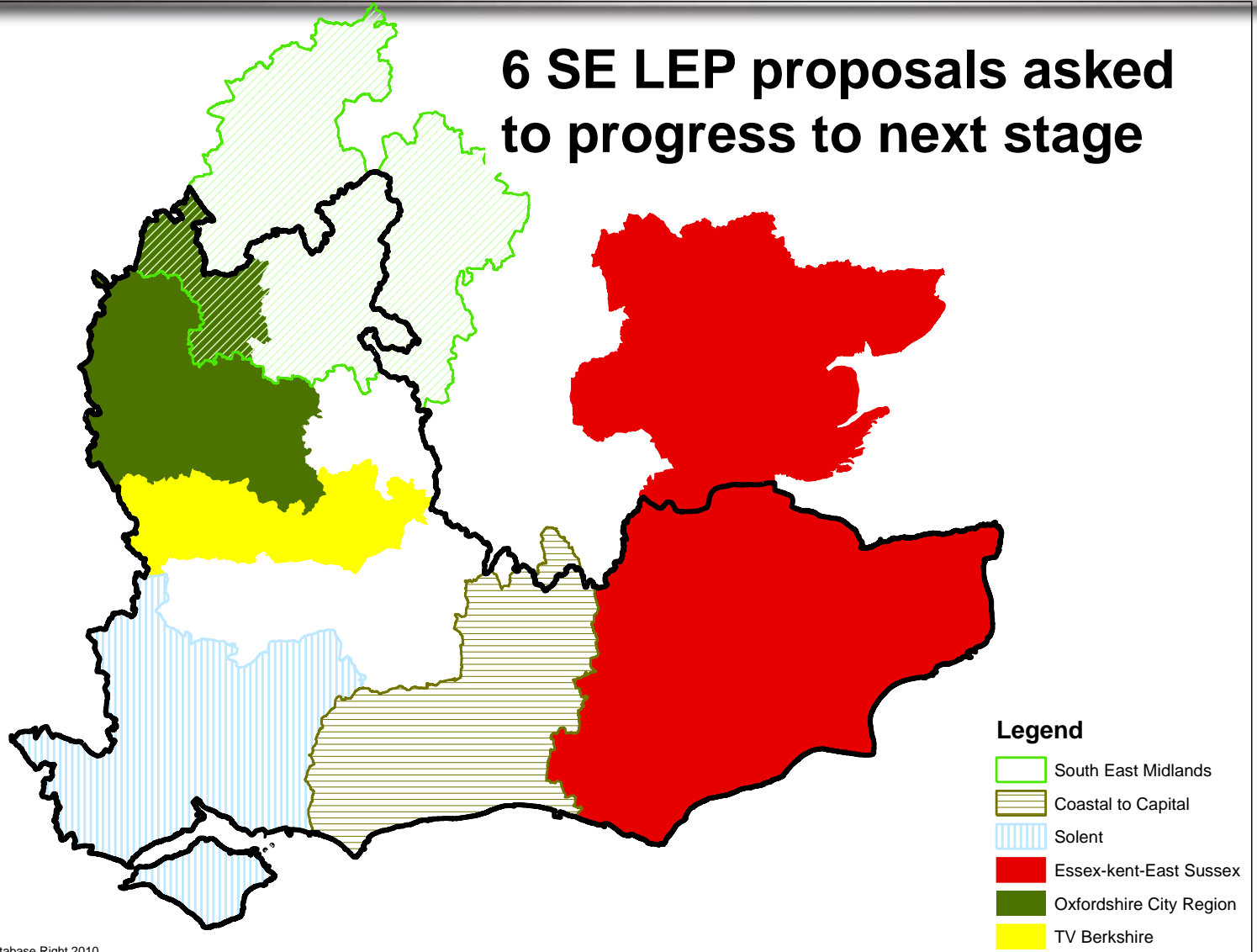


Local Growth White Paper



- Sets out how local growth will be delivered
- Local Enterprise Partnerships
- Regional Growth Fund
- Planning System reforms

6 SE LEP proposals asked to progress to next stage



What will LEPs look like?

- Vision and strategic leadership to drive sustainable private sector-led growth and job creation.
- White Paper sets out examples of what this could mean in practice but is clear - form and function will be different in different LEPs to meet local need.

Role of green low carbon economic growth

White paper states:

“Efficient and sustainable use of the environment now can stimulate growth through innovation, resource efficiency and new markets.”

Green, low carbon economic growth

Local or Central?

- **Green infrastructure** – LEPs will need to consider what local infrastructure issues they can address to enable growth in this area.
- **Green Low Carbon Clusters** – LEPs will want to make the most of their areas of strength or comparative advantage
- **Stimulation of supply chains in green markets** –The Government will provide LEPs with information on emerging opportunities;
- **Low carbon, green innovation** – strategic innovation investment will be taken forward centrally

Solent LEP Proposal

“Our vision is to create an environment that will better facilitate economic growth and private sector investment in the Solent area, allow businesses to grow, become more profitable, greener and enable new businesses to form and prosper”

Solent LEP Proposal

- **Low Carbon Economic Area:** private sector led bid to become a Low Carbon Economic Area for the Maritime Environment and Ports.
- **Regeneration** - developing a coalition between the private, public and voluntary and community sectors to continue the renaissance of the area including taking a leading role in the low carbon revolution
- **Sustainable infrastructure strategy** building on memorandums of understanding with the Environment Agency Natural England and Highways
- **Renewable and the low carbon economy** - the Isle of Wight businesses bring expertise and facilities that can provide a lead in this area to the Solent LEP.

Regional Growth Fund

- Stimulate enterprise by providing support for projects and programmes with significant potential for economic growth and create additional sustainable private sector employment; and
- support in particular those areas and communities that are currently dependent on the public sector make the transition to sustainable private sector-led growth and prosperity.

Next Steps

- Still early days with much of the detail still to be worked up. So now is the time to engage with the emerging LEPs and help to influence thinking.

Any Questions?