

European Spatial Planning and Urban Rural Relationships:

The UK Perspective

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European spatial planning

❖ The ESDP

- Development of a polycentric and balanced urban system and strengthening of the partnership between urban and rural areas.
- Promotion of integrated transport and communications concepts.
- Development and conservation of the natural and the cultural heritage through wise management.

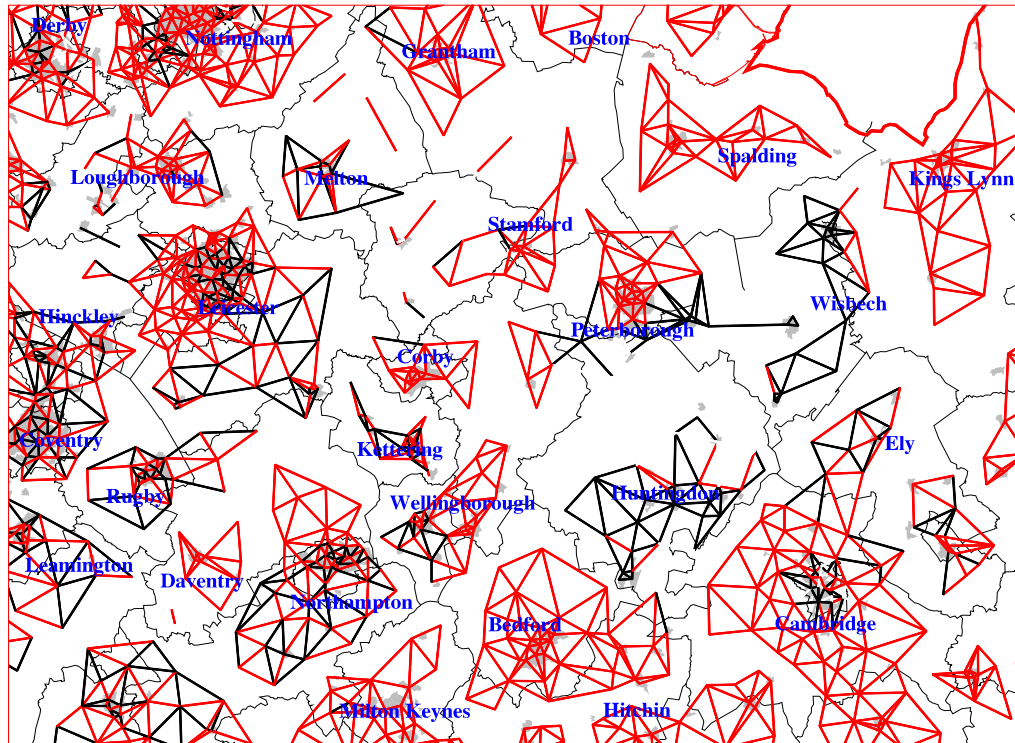


Town vs Country

- ❖ Urban issues and rural issues have long been separated
 - Town and Country Planning
 - Rural and Urban White Papers
- ❖ Inter-dependence increasing not lessening with globalisation
- ❖ Are we in danger of forgetting the ‘bits in between’?

Patterns of local linkage

The East Midlands: Cambridgeshire,
Leicestershire and Northamptonshire





Emerging approaches

- ❖ Evidence of increasing interest in how urban and rural areas relate
 - ESDP - urban-rural partnerships and the new urban-rural relationship
 - LGA - Urban Rural Compacts
 - Individual authorities
 - RDA strategies



Weaknesses

- ❖ Organisational structures
- ❖ Lack of co-operative tradition
- ❖ Separation of issues
- ❖ Complexity of issues
- ❖ Limited vision and ill-defined objectives
- ❖ Financial and policy constraints



Strengths

- ❖ Recognition of the issue
- ❖ Willingness to co-operate and find new ways of working
- ❖ A new 'spatiality' - valuable territorial focus



Rediscovering the spatial perspective

❖ Spatial Strategies

- RPG
- Wales
- Northern Ireland

❖ Spatial Visions

- sub-regional

The spatial perspective

The Glasgow and Clyde Valley Joint Structure Plan

