

East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy Framework

Summary Leaflet



The Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS) Framework draws together the key issues and challenges for the East Midlands. It enables all policies and action plans across the region to contribute as fully as possible to improving people's quality of life and wellbeing.

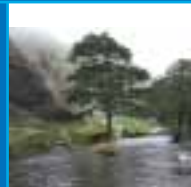
For more information go to www.emra.gov.uk/irs-framework

The Region's Vision

The East Midlands will be recognised as a region with a high quality of life and sustainable communities that thrives because of its vibrant economy, rich cultural and environmental diversity and the way it creatively addresses social inequalities, manages its resources sustainably and contributes to a safer, more inclusive society.

This will be achieved for the benefit of present and future generations through the integration of:

- A vibrant and competitive economy with sustainable production and consumption characterised by high quality employment, learning and skills, enterprising individuals, innovative businesses and improvements in the physical infrastructure.
- Cohesive and diverse communities that empower and engage people, are safe and healthy, combat discrimination and disadvantage and provide hope and opportunities for all.
- A rich, diverse and attractive natural and built environment and cultural heritage.
- Sustainable development of new and existing infrastructure that makes efficient use of land and resources, reduces the need for travel, incorporates sustainable design and construction, and enhances local distinctiveness.
- Regional and local policies that result from a thorough understanding of the evidence and, where appropriate, effective participative forms of governance.



The IRS Framework ensures that the wide ranging strategies and action plans developed across the region are integrated and compatible, including cross-cutting challenges such as addressing inequalities and climate change as well as other regional challenges including housing, health, the environment and the economy.

Whilst linkages and impacts of one area upon another are widely recognised, it is not always easy to identify them in a comprehensive way. To help address this, the IRS Framework includes the East Midlands Integrated Toolkit (EMIT) and the State of the Region.

EMIT has been developed to assist policy makers and project managers ensure policies and projects contribute as fully as possible towards a more sustainable future while the State of the Region monitors quality of life in the region.

Good governance and partnership working is key to the successful delivery of the IRS Framework. The IRS Framework is delivered through strategies and action plans developed at the regional level in consultation with sub regional and local stakeholders. The principles within these strategies provide a steer in the development of Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements at a local level.



The Region's Priorities

- 1. Reduce inequalities and improve community cohesion in the region** by combating discrimination and improving equality of economic opportunities, education, health and access to decent homes
- 2. Conserve and enhance the natural environment** by tackling the biodiversity deficit and enhancing the environmental infrastructure
- 3. Create sustainable and healthy communities throughout the region** by:
 - Empowering and engaging communities
 - Ensuring sustainable design and construction
 - Improving the resource efficiency and quality of the existing built environment
 - Improving access to services and opportunities, including affordable housing and cultural activities
 - Reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Developing social capital
- 4. Improve sustainable economic performance and competitiveness** by:
 - Encouraging enterprise and innovation
 - Improving the performance of existing businesses
 - Ensuring ongoing development of learning and skills
 - Ensuring the efficient use of the region's infrastructure, including ICT
 - Creating high quality employment opportunities
- 5. Reduce the impacts on and of climate change and use natural resources more efficiently** by:
 - Reducing energy consumption
 - Increasing the amount of energy generated from renewable sources
 - Reducing the amount of waste generated
 - Working towards sustainable production and consumption
 - Improving the region's resilience to change

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This document is available in Braille, large print format and tape format on request.

East Midlands Regional Assembly publications are also available in a range of languages if required.

For more information please call 01664 502555 or e-mail: info@emra.gov.uk.

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