

# Rural Mobility Centre of Excellence 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

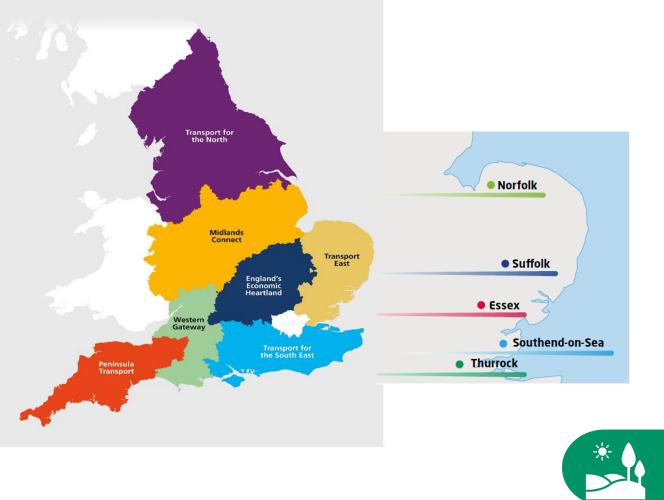
### **Transport East**



#### Role

- Partnerships of local authorities, working with businesses and government to set the strategic priorities for connectivity in regions
- Focus on:
  - Setting out the long term strategy for connectivity
  - Identifying regional investment priorities and working collaboratively to secure funding
  - Influencing the national agenda on behalf of our partners
- A single voice for better transport in the East

# Sub-national Transport Bodies in England



"A thriving economy for the East, with fast, reliable, safe and resilient transport infrastructure driving forward a future of inclusive and sustainable growth for decades to come"



Strategic priorities

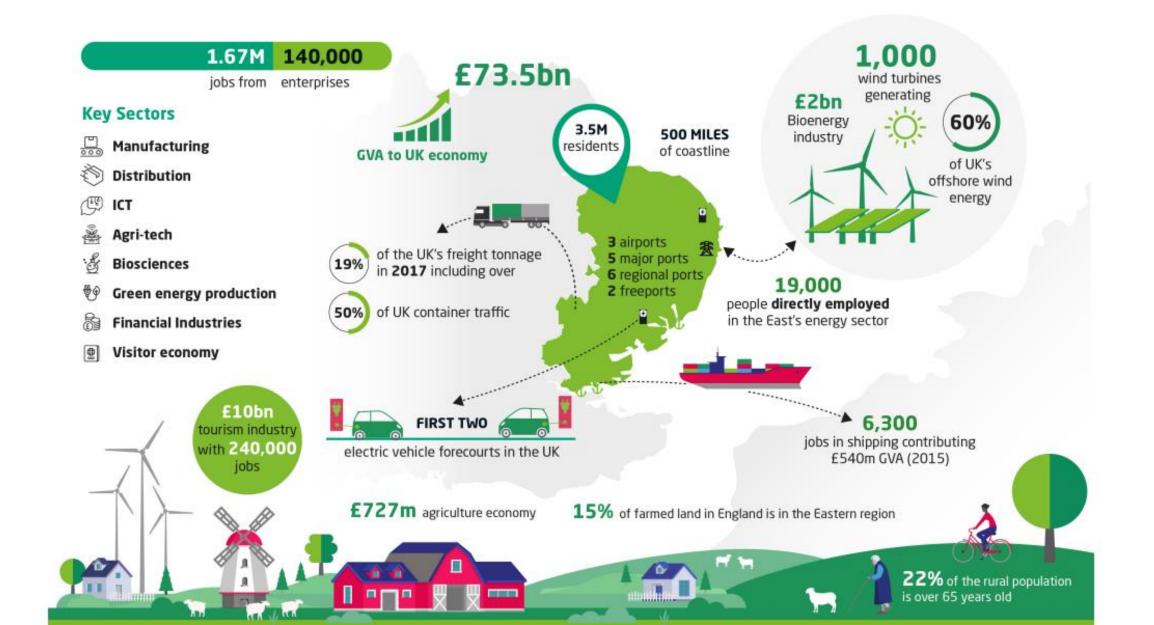
Decarbonisation to net zero

Connecting our growing towns and cities

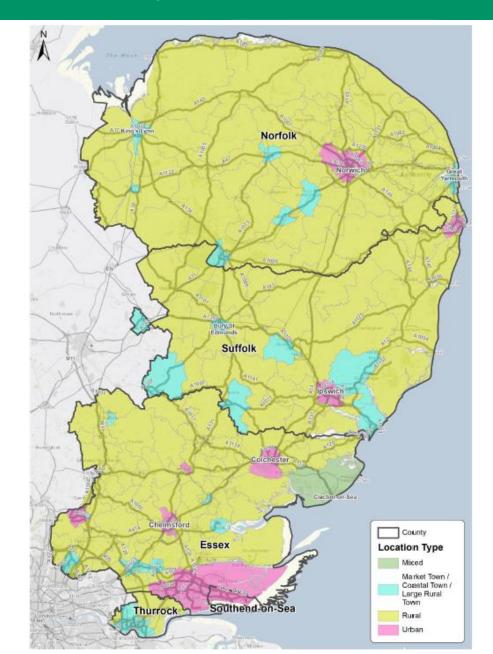
Energising coastal and rural communities

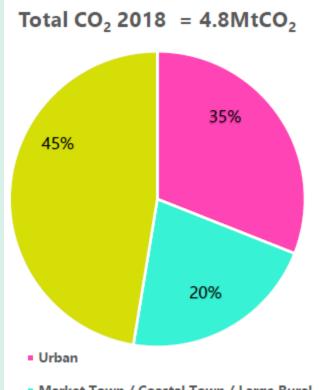
Unlocking our international gateways

### Unique features of the East



### **Emissions by location**





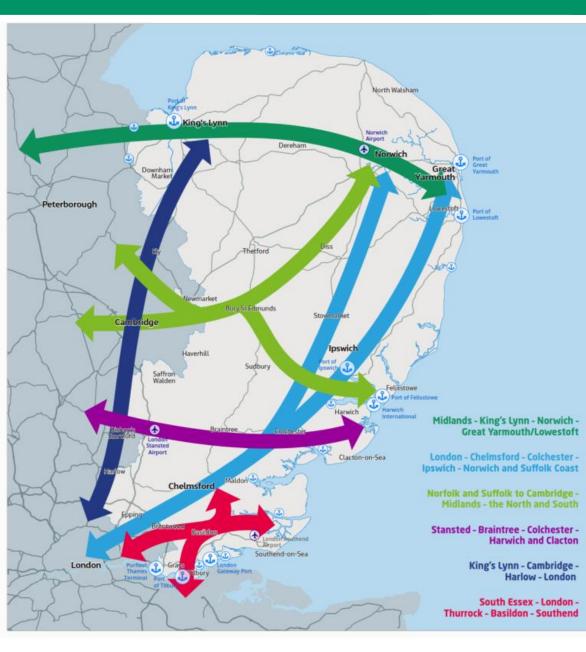
 Market Town / Coastal Town / Large Rural Town
Rural

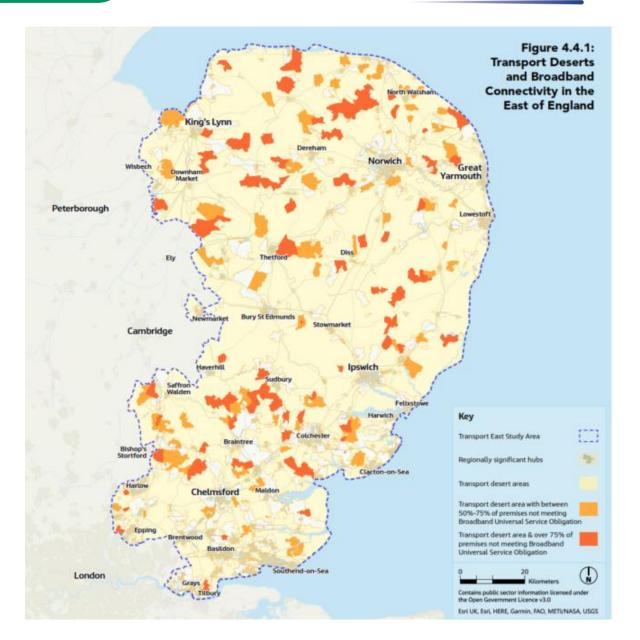
- 28% national average emissions from transport
- TE = 42% emissions from transport
- 45% of those emissions from rural areas
- 45% population in rural areas



### Connectivity – corridors and beyond







### Rural Mobility

#### **Centre of Excellence**





Practical advice and support

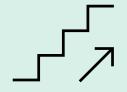
Improved decision making



Bespoke to our region

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Capacity and capability



Economies of scale



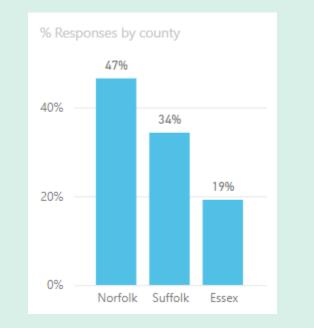
Better communication

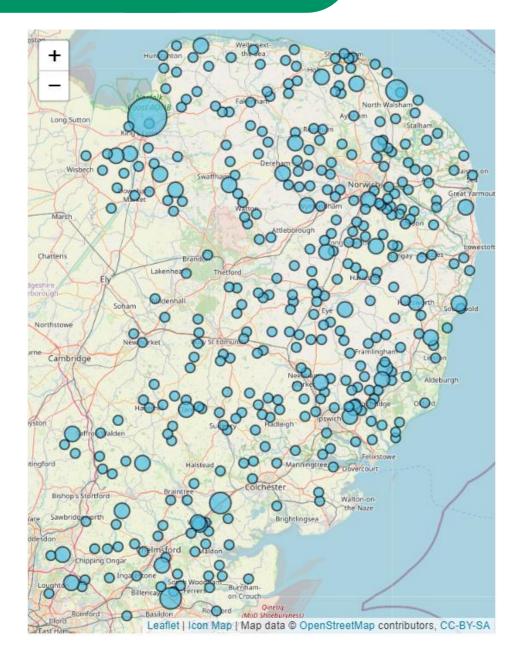


### Rural Access Survey

### **Regional Responses**

- The survey focused on understanding the following at a Parish level:
  - o the **amenities and facilities** in each parish
  - o the transport services and infrastructure present
  - opportunities to improve transport outcomes for the parish
  - o Over **370** individual responses







### **Rural Access Survey**

### What facilities are locally available?

- Primary education
- Secondary education
- Further educational (sixth form, college, university)
- Banking / Post Office / Mobile Banking
- Fuel Station
- GP surgery, hospital or medical centre (including dentists and clinics)
- Every day "essentials" food shop i.e. convenience shop

- A less regular 'big' food shop i.e. supermarket
- Clothing/shoes/non-food leisure shopping
- Large good shopping i.e. small appliances
- Points of interest / tourism
- Community centre
- Gym / sports centre facilities
- Leisure / socialising/ pub
- Library

### Rural Access Survey





## **Rural Mobility**

#### **Transport Select Committee**

In preparing to attend & give evidence to the Transport Select Committee we asked our regional partners for evidence to support further investment in rural transport.

https://committees.parliament.uk/oralevidence/12596/ html/

https://parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/abe48c8c-0407-475d-8909-2a7a43d21b8a

- Rural transport is a significant contributor to our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Coastal and tourism honeypots impact communities
- Tourism sector growth impacted by lack of transport for seasonal & shift work
- Evidence from DRT services is strong
- Promotion of DRT could be better
- Attraction of rural villages during retirement
- Low quality living environments



## Strategy Hub

Within our Business Plan we have funding for a regional Strategy Hub.

This is an independent group of Commissioners, supported by Transport East to run inquiries into complex transport issues.

Our first topic is Rural Mobility. Feeding evidence into the Centre of Excellence to validate and support wider work.

#### Structure:

- Independent group of Commissioners, Chaired by Dr Scott Copsey (Uni of Herts)
- Call for Evidence seeking views on rural transport
  - Challenges
  - Opportunities
  - Evidence of good practice
  - What needs to change regionally/nationally
- Report with recommendations to Transport East Forum and DfT



## Future of Transport

#### **TE region has:**

- Diverse employment sectors
- Large rural areas
- Aging population
- High level of car dependency and transport related emissions

#### **To deliver Net-Zero the region needs:**

- Mode shift
- Reduce car dependency
- Integrated transport
- Provide a realistic sustainable option Every person / Every trip

#### **TE region needs:**

- Unique features to be recognised and understood
- Regional approach to travel
- Integrated transport within and across modes

#### To do this our region needs:

- Case for investment to recognise challenges of rural transport
- Regional / cross boundary approach to funding
- Funding to enable Integrated Transport across modes







#### **Key Contacts**

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