



Warwickshire

Structure Plan

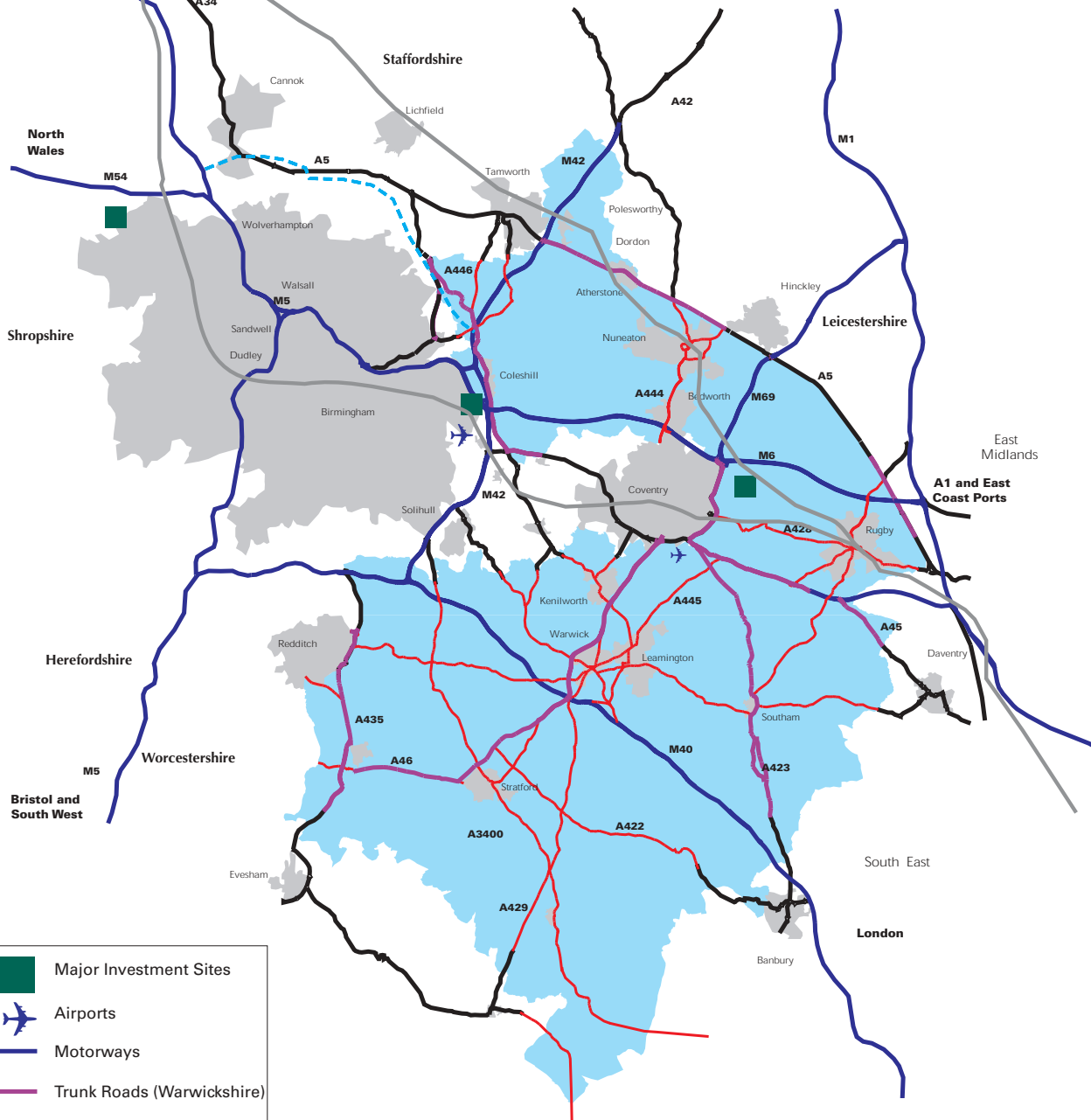
1996 – 2011



Regional & Sub-Regional Context

Manchester
and the North West

Nottingham and
the North East



Major Investment Sites



Airports

Motorways

Trunk Roads (Warwickshire)

A Roads (Warwickshire)

BNRR

Other Routes

Main Rail Routes

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Foreword



I have great pleasure in providing this Foreword to the County Council's new strategic land use plan, the Warwickshire Structure Plan 1996-2011.

As the strategic planning authority for Warwickshire, the County Council is committed to plan on the basis of the needs, interests and aspirations of the people we represent. This will mean working closely with others to secure the Structure Plan's implementation, especially the five district authorities in the County, respecting the different needs of each locality and maintaining strong links with the other authorities and agencies in the Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire Sub-Region and the West Midlands Region.

In addressing the pressures and opportunities that we are likely to be faced with over the period to 2011, we have emphasised the need to:

- work within the evolving framework of Government's Regional Planning Guidance to which the Council continues to make a significant contribution through the West Midlands Local Government Association;
- sustain the environmental quality of the sub-region with a focus on regenerating the older urban areas of our County towns;
- view much of the Sub-Region as a single housing and jobs market with complementary development land requirements;
- focus significant development activity on the north-south crescent of main urban areas and the town of Rugby;
- achieve a closer balance between industry and housing to minimise journey lengths and maximise use of public transport; and
- value the Green Belt as an asset which will play its part in stimulating the regeneration of urban areas as well as maintaining the identity, character and rural setting of our towns and villages.

We are committed to meeting current development requirements in a way that does not inhibit future generations meeting their own needs. The balancing of environment, economic and social issues to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come, is a theme that runs throughout the Structure Plan. I hope you will agree that the Structure Plan is a significant achievement moving towards the goal of sustainable development in Warwickshire, and I commend it to you.



County Councillor Mrs June Tandy
Cabinet Member (Regeneration & Planning)
Warwickshire County Council
August 2002

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This new Warwickshire Structure Plan for the period 1996-2011 was adopted by the County Council on the 20th August 2001, following an Examination-in-Public (EiP) in April and May 1999 and the publication of subsequent modifications. It replaces the previous Warwickshire Structure Plan Alterations 1989-2001. With changes in European, UK and West Midlands planning policy, it makes sense to start afresh on a strategic land use plan to take us into the 21st Century.
- 1.2 The Structure Plan, which comprises policies and proposals and a Key Diagram, is the strategic land use plan for Warwickshire and forms part of the statutory development plan for the county. The rest of the development plan comprises the district-wide local plans prepared by the five district/borough councils (North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick), and the County Council's Minerals and Waste Local Plans. The two prime purposes of the development plan are to allocate land to meet, for example, future housing and employment needs and to contain policies that seek to influence the direction of development as well as providing the context within which decisions on planning applications are made.
- 1.3 Both the Structure Plan and local plans have to be prepared within the context of the Government's national planning policy guidance (PPGs) and Regional Planning Guidance (RPG11) that was approved by the Secretary of State in 1998.
- 1.4 The principal role of the Structure Plan is to reflect this national and regional guidance in policies and proposals that attempt to balance county-wide issues, concentrating on those matters that transcend individual district/borough areas. As such, they deal in the main with those issues of strategic significance at county level.
- 1.5 The County Council's overriding aim in producing this new Structure Plan is to promote a pattern of development that enables the housing, employment, leisure, recreation and transport needs of the community to be met without reducing the capacity of the environment to satisfy the needs of present and future generations. Specifically, its objectives are to:
 - a. provide homes to meet the needs of the community including households moving into the County from Coventry and Birmingham;
 - b. support enterprise and competitiveness and to provide for a variety of employment opportunities to meet local needs;
 - c. concentrate development in towns,

- preferably on land previously developed;
- d. reduce the distances people need to travel, whilst acknowledging the continuing role of commuting in the County and the need to facilitate this through transport improvement;
 - e. protect the integrity of the Green Belt through an acknowledgement of its established aims;
 - f. use development to strengthen all communities and to encourage a sense of community;
 - g. protect from unnecessary harm, the environment and our cultural, historical and social heritage;
 - h. make towns attractive, convenient and safe places to live in, work in, and use, and to establish them as the collective centres for a variety of uses;
 - i. support walking, cycling and public transport as alternatives to the private car;
 - j. maintain and improve a regional and county strategic transport network;
 - k. support agriculture and the rural economy;
 - l. encourage new tourism, recreation and leisure initiatives where these are compatible with the built and natural environment; and
 - m. encourage the use of renewable natural resources, and conserve non-renewable resources.

Please Note:

For the convenience of readers, this document comprises:

- The Warwickshire Structure Plan 1996 - 2011 Policies and Proposals that have statutory force, are shown in bold type in 'policy boxes'

Adopted wording of policies and proposals are set out like this

Where appropriate, adopted policies and proposals are illustrated on the Key Diagram.

- All other material in this document comprises the Explanatory Memorandum that includes the explanation for the adopted policies and proposals in terms of the intent, the context and the way they are expected to be applied. The Explanatory Memorandum does not have the same status as policy.