

North Essex Garden Communities: *Building Greener Communities*

Building Resilient Communities Conference - 11 November 2016

Chris Outtersides - NEGC Project Manager



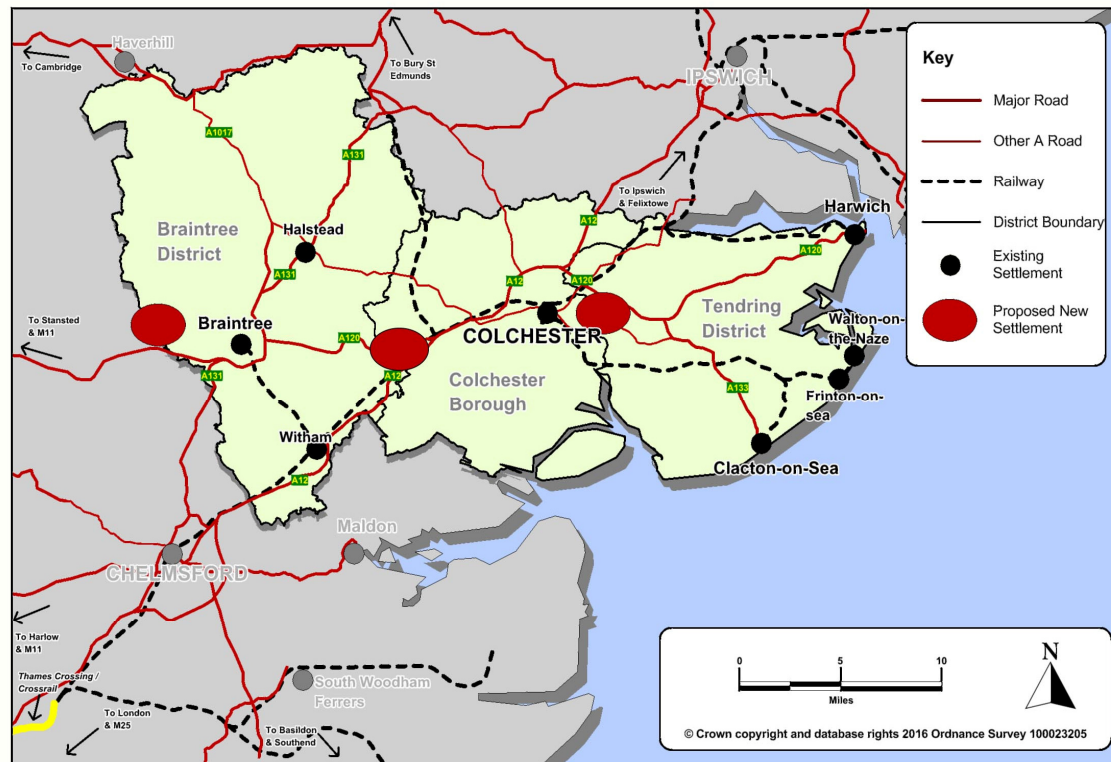
North Essex Context

- ▶ Significant housing & employment growth in recent years - set to increase
- ▶ Strategic response to these requirements across North Essex
- ▶ Need for partnership working with a shared desire to:
 - ❖ *Promote, plan and deliver sustainable strategic, long-term large-scale growth*
 - ❖ *Provide the housing, employment and associated infrastructure needed in partnership with the private sector and local landowners to ensure the best outcomes for current and future communities of North Essex*
 - ❖ *Manage change in a sensitive and sustainable manner*

North Essex Garden Communities (NEGC)

- ▶ Strategic partnership between Colchester BC, Braintree DC, Tendring DC and Essex CC
- ▶ Currently the only programme of its kind in the UK
- ▶ Potential to deliver up to 40,000 new homes and substantial employment supported by transformational new infrastructure
- ▶ If successful, could deliver the largest new communities within the UK since the Second World War
- ▶ 3 preferred sites:
 - ❖ East of Colchester
 - ❖ West of Colchester
 - ❖ West of Braintree

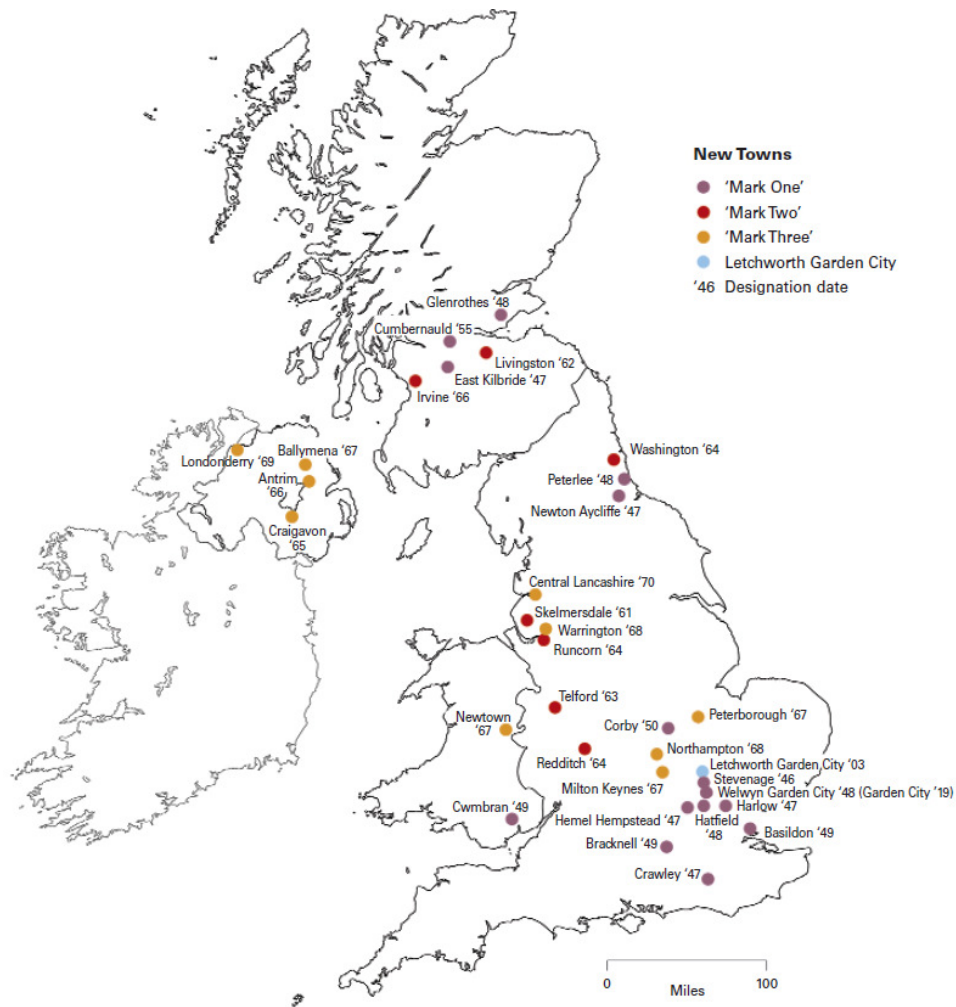
Location of Proposed Garden Communities



What is a Garden Community?

“A Garden City is a holistically planned new settlement which enhances the natural environment and offers high-quality affordable housing and locally accessible work in beautiful, healthy and sociable communities.”

- Town and Country Planning Association



New Towns Programme
'the greatest single creation of planned urbanism ever undertaken, anywhere'

32 new towns across the UK
 between 1946 and 1980s

Now provide homes for over
 2.8 million people

Why the Garden Communities Model?

- ▶ Enables public sector leadership and a long-term approach to investment and community
- ▶ Fosters public/private collaboration and the sharing of development risk and reward
- ▶ Enables comprehensive planning with timely delivery of infrastructure
- ▶ Responds positively to the context of North Essex, providing the best of town and country
- ▶ Places the concept & function of community at the heart of place-making
- ▶ Enables the provision of integrated and sustainable transport options, reducing reliance on private car
- ▶ Creates great places to live, work and spend leisure time

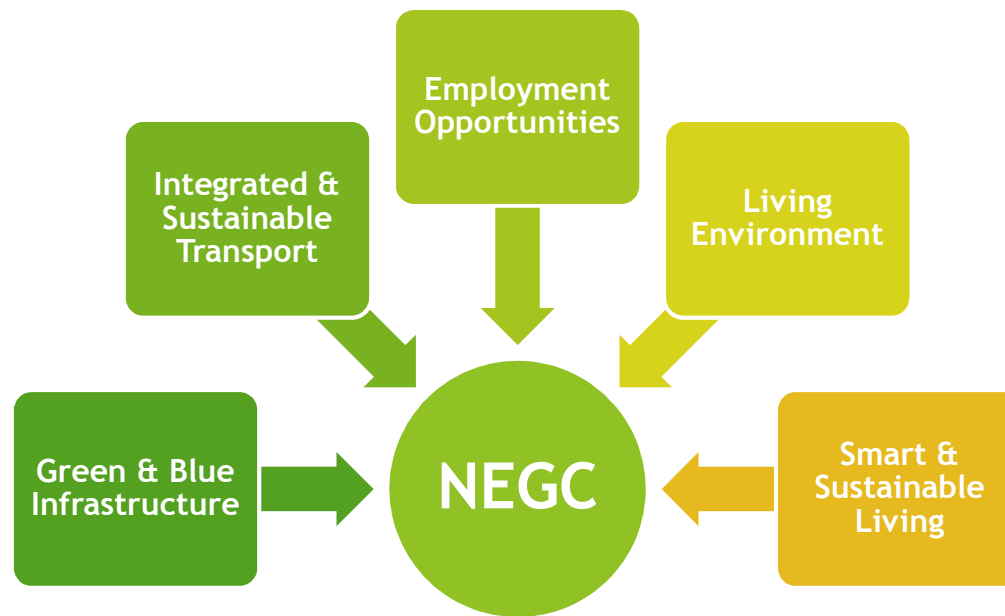


“Created from a comprehensive and integrated approach to place-making, the garden communities will be amazing places to live, work and spend leisure and recreation time.”

- NEGC Charter, June 2016



Creating Resilient & Sustainable Communities



► Green & Blue Infrastructure

- ❖ *Range of multi-functional, accessible and connected green / open spaces.*
- ❖ *Water-sensitive urban design.*
- ❖ *Productive natural landscapes; utilising existing local assets and encouraging wildlife and biodiversity.*

► Integrated & Sustainable Transport

- ❖ *Maximising the provision of walking, cycling and rapid public transit systems.*

► Employment Opportunities

- ❖ *Maximising the sub-regional opportunity to attract high-value, high-skilled and logistics-based employment.*

► Living Environment

- ❖ *Community inclusiveness and walkable, sociable and vibrant neighbourhoods.*
- ❖ *A diverse mix of homes, levels of affordability and tenures.*
- ❖ *Range of innovative community services, including health, education, leisure & recreation.*

► Smart & Sustainable Living

- ❖ *Integrated 21st Century communities.*
- ❖ *Smart technology (water/energy use & storage, waste generation efficiencies and remote-controlled 'smart' home environments).*
- ❖ *Working with existing landscape features and topography to absorb carbon and cool buildings.*
- ❖ *Alternative energy provision (e.g. solar panels).*
- ❖ *Multi-utility service corridors and companies.*
- ❖ *Green architectural design.*

Timescales

- ▶ On-going: community and stakeholder engagement and the implementation of the Marketing & Communications Strategy for the programme
- ▶ September to December 2016: Concept Framework development and evidence-based studies to support the Local Plan(s) process
- ▶ January to March 2016: publication of proposed Pre-Submission Draft Local Plans and further stakeholder consultation
- ▶ May 2017: submission of Local Plans to the Planning Inspectorate

We want to hear from you!

► Chris Outtersides - NEGC Project Manager

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