

# Regional Agreements

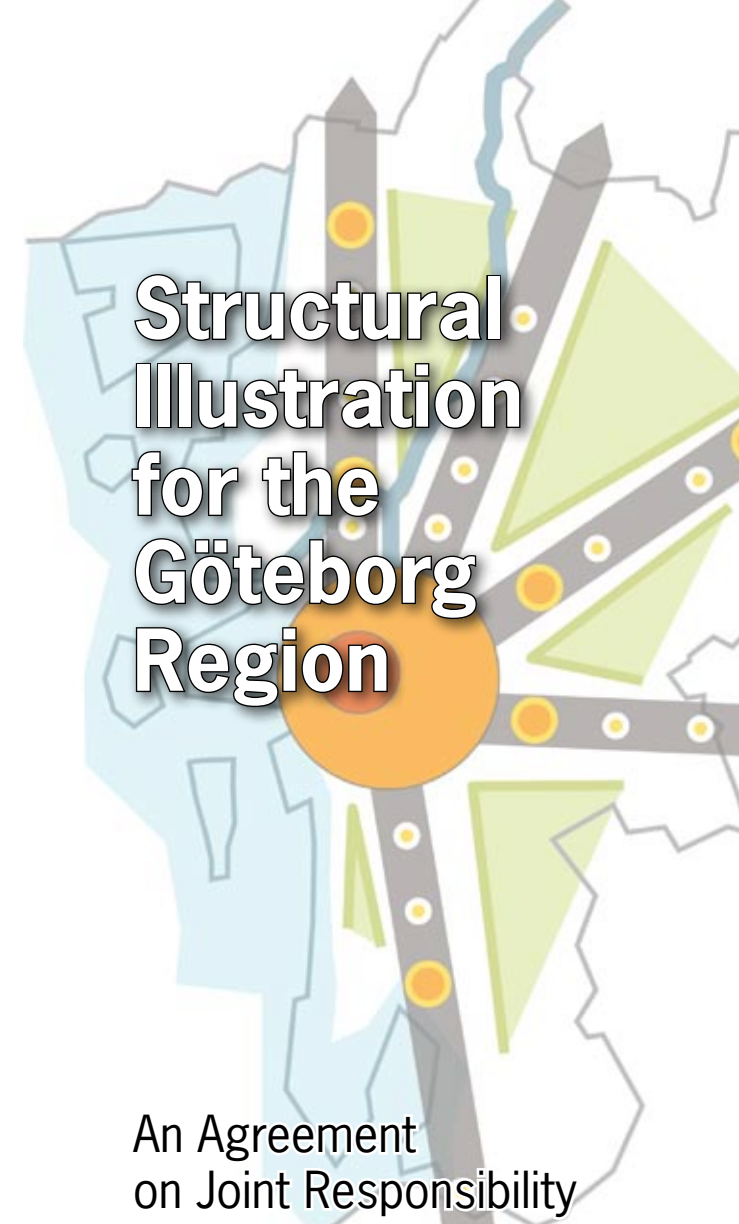
- We agree to take joint responsibility for a sustainable regional structure. Each party takes local responsibility for their parts of the regional structure and supports other municipalities in developing their parts.
- The development of the regional core is of essential importance for the development of the Göteborg Region as a whole. To create an attractive and accessible regional city core is a joint task.
- The already built-up parts of the metropolitan area will be completed when opportunity arises. Development will be based on an attractive system of local public transport with a strong connection to the main corridors via assigned nodes.
- The main corridors constitute the spine of the Göteborg Region and will be strengthened in order to make all parts of the region long-term sustainable. Developments are planned with the support of an attractive and efficient regional commuting rail service.
- The qualities of the coastal area will be safeguarded and maintained in order to strengthen the Göteborg Region as a whole. We pay particular attention to land use issues in the vicinity of the shoreline.
- The green wedges will be safeguarded and maintained in order to strengthen the Göteborg Region as a whole. We pay particular attention to land use issues in the intersection between urban and countryside/green areas.
- The many qualities and functions of the river Göta Älv will be safeguarded. We will endeavor to minimize the negative barrier effects caused by the river. We pay particular attention to the consequences of climate change.

For more information see  
[www.grkom.se](http://www.grkom.se)



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## Structural Illustration for the Göteborg Region

An Agreement  
on Joint Responsibility  
for a Sustainable  
Regional Structure



The Göteborg Region Association of Local Authorities (GR) has since 2002 commenced a constructive dialogue between the executive board and the member municipalities, based on the common vision of sustainable development. The fourth round of consultations, carried out in spring 2008, resulted in a policy document comprising a structural illustration of the envisioned spatial development and seven regional agreements on land use. This leaflet summarises the document.

## Main Structure

The objectives for the regional development of the Göteborg Region are outlined in the strategy document "Sustainable Growth" and through the mission of the public transport program K2020. Here the fundamental elements of a regional structure are set forth as sea and coastal areas, woods and lakes, together with a strong and attractive regional core with corridors to several strong and attractive regional centres. In accordance with the regional development strategies decided by the executive board the region shall develop by establishing attractive and efficient regional commuting rail services, with the construction of the rail link Västlänken as an essential part. Long term coordinated and consistent actions are needed in order to reach the qualities aspired to.

*We agree* to take joint responsibility for a sustainable regional structure. Each party takes local responsibility for their parts of the regional structure and supports other municipalities in developing their parts.

*We keep in mind* that an attractive urban environment, together with the proximity to coast, sea, woods and lakes, as well as a wide range of opportunities of education, jobs and services, is essential for our choice to live and work in the Göteborg Region.

*We keep in mind* that the conditions for a sustainable growth improve if the expansion of housing, work places, trade, education, health care etc is concentrated to

- the core,
- the metropolitan districts, and
- neighbourhoods situated in, or strongly connected to, the regional main corridors.



*We keep in mind* that this is most important when locating highly populated settlements, business or shopping areas and other facilities.

*We keep in mind* that a conscious expansion is necessary in order to develop a balance in population between core and surroundings, as well as between north and south.

*We keep in mind* that unwanted environmental effects and/or other negative effects such as congestion can be avoided when new settlements and facilities are located in areas with already well built-up or planned infrastructure.

### The Core

The regional core consists of the central part of Göteborg, easy to access from the entire Göteborg Region.

### The Metropolitan District

The metropolitan district is defined as the inner parts of the Göteborg Region with a well developed system of local public transport.

### The Main Corridors

The main corridors are formed by the structure of the main rail and road system. The proposed rail link Västlänken will help provide an attractive alternative to car use when the regional rail service is expanded to other main cities within the county, like Uddevalla, Trollhättan, Alingsås/Skövde, Borås and Varberg.

### The Coastal Area

The coastal area consists of the mainland shore area, the Göteborg southern and northern archipelago and the island of Tjörn.

### The Green Wedges

The green wedges consist of the larger areas of the cohesive forest and agriculture landscape that stretch far into the metropolitan districts.

### The river Göta Älv

The river is a highly structuring element of the region and is characterized by a clear barrier effect.

*Comment:* In consultations with the municipal councils it has been argued to include also additional, complementary structures in the agreement. Such secondary structures are not part of the present agreement, but the suggestions serve as input in a continued strategic discussion about transport infrastructure issues in the Göteborg Region.