

So, if the industrial strategy should focus on places, which places should it focus on? In our research we identify two sets of places which we believe need the most intervention from central government and strategic authorities: the *stifled* and the *stuck*.

WHO ARE THE *STIFLED*?

Those we identify as *stifled* are the places that are successfully reorienting their economies based on demographic and economic trends. They are fast growing, with associated growing pains, but are often stymied by their administrative boundaries. They often do not have the land to build on and need the power to grow. As we recommend in the report, one industrial strategy action amongst many that would support the *stifled* would be the right to petition government for a boundary expansion. Government would then consider whether a boundary should be redrawn to allow the *stifled* places additional land drawn from a neighbouring authority in order to meet demand for housing and economic development.

The *stifled* have been identified as local authority areas in non-Core Cities whose population grew by 7,500+ between 2010 and 2015. They include the following places.

Bedford	Cambridge	Dartford	Maidstone	Norwich	Plymouth	Swindon
Bournemouth	Canterbury	Exeter	Medway	Nottingham	Portsmouth	Watford
Bradford	Colchester	Guildford	Milton Keynes	Oxford	Slough	Welwyn Hatfield
Brighton and Hove	Coventry	Leicester	Northampton	Peterborough	Southampton	York

WHO ARE THE *STUCK*?

Places we identify as *stuck* are the thirty most structurally challenged local economies in England, which perform poorly on multiple indicators, both long term demographic trends and more immediate short term economic performance. They are penumbra economies that have not recovered from the 1980s. They have weak labour markets and much of the growth experienced in the past few decades has been in poorly-paid and insecure sectors such as retail. Many have attracted a great deal of investment from central government and the European Union, but structural issues persist. Local council's political make-up is often multi-party coalitions or, at the other end of the scale, 'one party states'. Greater top-down intervention is required, focused on building local capacity in leadership and skills.

The *stuck* have been identified by their average score in the factors and indicators we identify as being most important in a place. We identified the thirty worst performing areas as *stuck*. See the scoreboard in Chapter Two of the report for a breakdown of data. See Appendix Two for an explanation of our method for ranking.

Babergh	Dudley	King's Lynn and West Norfolk	North Lincolnshire	Stoke-on-Trent	Torbay
Barrow-in-Furness	East Lindsey	North Devon	North Norfolk	Suffolk Coastal	Torridge
Blackpool	Eden	North East Derbyshire	South Lakeland	Sunderland	West Lancashire
Christchurch	Great Yarmouth	North East Lincolnshire	South Norfolk	Tameside	West Somerset
Copeland	Isle of Wight	North Kesteven	Staffordshire Moorlands	Tendring	Wyre

WHERE IN ENGLAND ARE THE *STIFLED* AND THE *STUCK*?

In the map below we have illustrated the twenty-eight places we identify as *stifled* and the thirty places we identify as *stuck*, alongside our proposed strategic authority boundaries. While the clear majority of *stifled* places are in southern England and by nature large towns and small cities, the *stuck* places are clustered across the country and typically rural. Along the Cumbrian and Lancashire coast lies one cluster, from Stoke-on-Trent to North East Lincolnshire lies another (one person we interviewed for this research described the area as England's rust belt), and another can be seen along the East Anglian coast. **While successive governments have made significant progress addressing the social and economic issues of inner city boroughs, our research suggests there now needs to be a recalibration of policy to include the small towns of England and their rural hinterlands. The industrial strategy should be its starting point.**

