Global Forum 2021

Role of Digitalisation in with- or post-covid sustainable city planning

From on urbanist point of view

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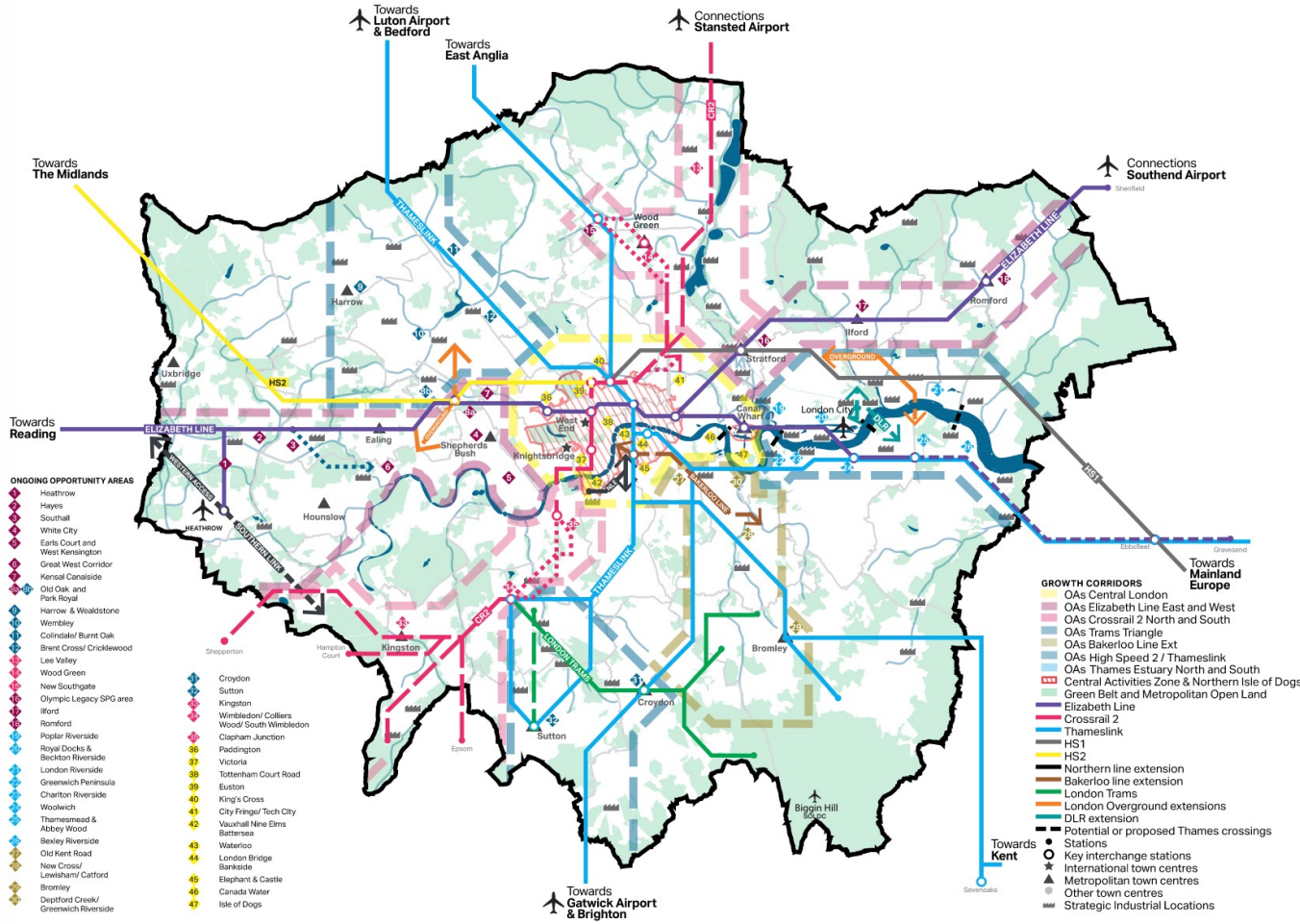
Role of planning:
balance common good with private interest

At city level:

-conceive

-steer

-manage change



Impact of Covid on planning:
balance trade-off between public health and economy

Overcrowded hospitals

Empty offices shops restaurants streets

Impact of Covid on cities:
on society, on individuals?

- -social distancing
- -more homeworking
- -more telemedicine online
- -more shopping online
- -different mix of mobility mode
- -more distance learning
- -more youth online communication

- *->losing ability to socialise*
- *->suburbanisation*
- *->poorer human relations*
- *->less urban liveability*
- *->15 minute neighbourhoods?*
- *-missing student life*
- *-loneliness*

Focus on digitalisation:
positives – negatives?

positives

- are well rehearsed by the Global Forum

negatives:

- *socially divisive*

poorer children
-lack online equipment
-internet connection
-technical knowledge

very young children
-spend lots of time online
-do not learn social skills
-suffer loneliness

Conclusion
lessons from Covid - rethinking planning

-human beings are social animals

-online communication
cannot replace face to face contact

-greater mix between real and
virtual brings benefits

-cities have own dynamic
-physical fabric and
institutions have great inertia

thus:
-do not rethink cities
-rethink behaviour

-use IA and robotics
-but under human control

Thanks for your attention
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