

Oxford Revise | Edexcel A Level Geography | Answers

Chapter 5

All exemplar answers given are likely to be in the top mark band.

Questions 1–5 are point-marked.

1 AO1 = 3

Award 1 mark for a reason why regeneration strategies often involve tensions and 2 marks for an expansion of that reason (1 mark of which could be an example).

Relevant content may include:

- Local interest groups may have different priorities to those planning the regeneration strategy (1). For example, residents near large infrastructure projects such as the High Speed 2 railway line may prioritise a peaceful living and natural environment (1) over the ability to travel to places more quickly (1).
- The strategy may not have consulted every interest group (1) or would have prioritised some groups over others (1), meaning that certain groups may have felt disappointed or betrayed (1). For example, open doors migration policies have led to rapid demographic changes in some regions (1) such as Boston in Lincolnshire, which saw an influx of agricultural workers in the 2000s (1).
- Restrictions on funding (1) caused by austerity measures or economic recession (1) mean that some schemes are delayed or cancelled (1). For example, the Leeds SuperTram scheme in the 2010s (1).

Example answer: *Local interest groups may have different priorities to the national government. For example, residents near large infrastructure projects such as the High Speed 2 railway line may prioritise a peaceful living and natural environment over the ability to travel to places more quickly.*

2 AO1 = 3

Award 1 mark for a reason why local government efforts to attract businesses might have varying levels of success and 2 marks for an expansion of that reason (1 mark of which could be an example).

Relevant content may include:

- Long-lasting negative branding of places (1) may make impressions hard to shift (1), thus slowing down inward investment and/or inward movement of residents, day visitors, or tourists (1).
- Restrictions on funding (1) caused by austerity measures, cutbacks from central government, or economic mismanagement (1) mean that some schemes are delayed or cancelled (1).
- Local communities may have different priorities to the local government (1). For example, residents near science and technology parks such as the York Science Park may prioritise a peaceful living and natural environment (1) over the ability to attract investment and create jobs (1).
- Local preservation societies may want to use planning restrictions to curb developments (1), as they feel they may drastically change the heritage value, aesthetics, and/or environmental benefits of an area (1). For example, Bradford Civic Society's campaign to save Kirkgate Market from demolition in the 1970s (1).

3 AO1 = 2 / AO2 = 1

Award 1 mark for analysing the resource to identify one reason for why conflicts can occur among contrasting groups in communities about the priorities for regeneration, and a further 2 marks for expansion up to a maximum of 3 marks.

Relevant content may include:

- Some 'Friends' groups, likely to be dominated by older members of the community, prefer parks to be peaceful retreats (1), whereas many younger people like to gather in large groups (1) and play 'loud music... late at night' (1). This is characterised as 'antisocial behaviour' by many older residents (1).
- Members of the community who do not drink or take drugs may want to exclude drinkers or drug users from communal spaces (1) because of their association with 'litter associated with drinking and drug-taking' (1), whereas younger members of the community may want to use such places to socialise (1).
- Environmentalists, who would like parks to be safe areas for wildlife (1), will object to 'litter associated with drinking and drug-taking' and 'loud music... late at night' as they will interfere with plant and animal habitats (1), as opposed to many younger people who prioritise meeting up in communal land (1).

4 AO1 = 3

Award 1 mark for an explanation of why local interest groups seek to influence decision-making about regeneration projects and 2 marks for an expansion of that reason (1 mark of which could be an example).

Relevant content may include:

- Local interest groups may have concerns about changes in the physical character of an area (1). For example, local preservation societies may wish to keep the Victorian facades of disused shops, places of worship, or mills (1); for example, Lister Mills in Bradford (1).
- Local trade union branches may have concerns about the loss of jobs if an economic activity is changing (1). For example, when steel mills move from blast furnaces to electric arc furnaces (1), such as the changes in the steel works in Port Talbot, Wales (1).
- Regeneration involving pedestrianisation will be of interest to Chambers of Commerce (1), who may worry about the disruption caused by building work (1) and difficulty in organising deliveries (1), but who may also see the benefit of shoppers being enticed back into city centres (1). For example, the Liverpool One multi-use development (1).

5 AO1 = 2 / AO2 = 1

Award 1 mark for analysing the resource to identify one reason for why places have changed their demographic characteristics over time, and a further 2 marks for expansion up to a maximum of 3 marks.

Relevant content might include:

- Social clustering (a preference for living close to people you wish to be with) (1). This may be choice, to share community facilities (1), such as shops, food outlets, places of worship, or community centres (1), or it may be as a protection from racism (1). It also allows language and customs to be maintained (1). For example, when many Ugandan Asians settled in Leicester (East Midlands) in the 1970s and 80s (1).
- Accessibility to key cities, which have higher employment opportunities (1) or did so when certain waves of migration occurred (1). For example, northern textile cities and midlands engineering and manufacturing cities (1); for example, Pakistanis in Birmingham (West Midlands) in the 1960s and 70s (1).
- Government planning policy (1): after the Second World War, the UK government sponsored job advertisements abroad and agreed immigration targets (1) to fill labour gaps in the NHS, factories, and

public transport (1), which were mainly located in larger cities such as London and Birmingham (West Midlands) (1).

Questions 6–15 are level-marked.

6 AO1 = 6

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate. (AO1) Understanding addresses a narrow range of geographical ideas, which lacks detail. (AO1)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Understanding addresses a range of geographical ideas, which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO1)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Understanding addresses a broad range of geographical ideas, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO1)

Relevant content may include:

- Local governments in the UK compete to attract both domestic and foreign investors as they recognise the benefits associated with increased investment inflows to their areas.
- Investment may be in key sectors such as technology, manufacturing, finance, etc. and is generated by offering businesses incentives to locate in an area that may otherwise not be their first choice.
- This investment stimulates economic growth in the area (e.g. post-industrial cities), and has the potential to create jobs, generate the need for infrastructure developments, and so boost the overall wealth and attractiveness of the area/city. Myrdal’s cumulative causation model, for example, Manchester/Northern Powerhouse.
- Investment can also be into residential and commercial areas. Through offering public-private incentives, local governments encourage private sector investment, which drives urban renewal/regeneration and improved living conditions for local residents in previously neglected areas. For example, London’s Docklands.
- Local governments also compete for investment in the form of national government seed funding because a competition-based approach is favoured by the national government. Competitions such as the Towns Fund (e.g. Keighley, West Yorkshire) or the UK City of Culture scheme (e.g. Bradford, West Yorkshire) require councils to bid to attract government funding, which will then hopefully lead to private sector investment.
- Local governments may be forced to compete for investment owing to the growth of a neo-liberal, market-based approach to attract funding as national governments cut back on central funding.
- Local governments may compete for investment owing to the growth of a neo-liberal, market-based approach to attract funding, and to ‘fill the gap’ left by departing corporations.

Example answer: *Local governments in the UK actively engage in competition to attract both domestic and foreign investors, recognising the many benefits associated with increased investment inflows. For instance, post-industrial cities like Manchester have supported ambitious initiatives such as the Northern Powerhouse to foster investment in key sectors like technology, manufacturing, and finance. By attracting investment, these cities stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, and bolster infrastructure development, thereby enhancing the overall competitiveness and prosperity of the region. This reflects Myrdal's cumulative causation model.*

Sometimes such investment can be directed towards commercial and residential ends. The transformation of the Docklands area in London serves as a prime example of how once-declining industrial zones can be transformed into thriving commercial and residential districts. Through public-private partnerships and targeted incentives, local governments attract private sector investments, driving urban renewal and improving living standards for residents in formerly neglected areas.

Local governments also compete for investment because a competition-based approach is favoured by the national government. Competitions such as the Towns Fund or the UK City of Culture scheme necessitate councils putting together bids to attract national government seed funding, which will then, it is hoped, lead to private sector investment. The Towns Fund has helped shops in Keighley, West Yorkshire, regenerate its high street. Councils need to bid for this money because less automatic funding comes their way from national governments.

7 AO1 = 6

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	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate. (AO1) Understanding addresses a narrow range of geographical ideas, which lacks detail. (AO1)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Understanding addresses a range of geographical ideas, which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO1)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Understanding addresses a broad range of geographical ideas, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO1)

Relevant content may include:

- Towns also have distinctive demographic characteristics which are reflected in employment trends, land-use patterns, and levels of inequality and deprivation.
- Statistics can be used to show demographic change. For example:
 - In 2011, 86% of people in England and Wales were white, compared with 91.3% in 2001. On average the population grew by 7.1%, but by 9.0% in urban and 2.5% in rural areas, showing the impacts of immigration and growth on a multicultural society.

- In 2011, 86% of people in England and Wales were white, compared with 91.3% in 2001. On average the population grew by 7.1%, but by 9.0% in urban and 2.5% in rural areas, showing the impacts of immigration and growth on a multicultural society.
- In 2011, approximately 10% of people were employed in trade and managerial or director positions in urban areas, but 14% in rural areas. These generate higher earnings, and with improved technology and communications has enabled more skilled people to live in rural areas.
- Gentrification is a change in the social structure of a place when affluent people move into a location. This often follows deindustrialisation, and the shift towards a service-based economy. Gentrification can be uncoordinated or planned. It is often resisted by local residents.
- Inward migration might change an area's population and ethnic mix, and existing residents might leave. Newcomers may be attracted by jobs or regeneration projects. In recent decades, gentrification has sometimes resulted in the displacement of migrant communities.
- Urban areas in economic decline will often have an older age profile, as young adults of working age leave to find jobs. Regenerated areas often attract young adults.
- Areas with a high proportion of recent migrants will tend to have more young adults, especially males, and more children.

8 AO1 = 6

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate. (AO1) ● Understanding addresses a narrow range of geographical ideas, which lacks detail. (AO1)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) ● Understanding addresses a range of geographical ideas, which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO1)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) ● Understanding addresses a broad range of geographical ideas, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO1)

Relevant content may include:

- Variations in quality of life between places can often be attributed to inequalities in pay levels, which significantly influence living standards within communities across the UK.
- Regions with limited employment prospects or struggling industries may experience lower quality of life indicators due to higher unemployment rates, stagnant wages, and limited access to essential services.
- For example, industrial decline in areas of the UK such as south Wales, north-west England and western Scotland has resulted in low pay, job losses, economic dislocation, and social deprivation, exacerbating inequalities and resulting in poorer health.
- As a result, disparities in employment opportunities and income distribution contribute to spatial variations in quality of life outcomes.
- Whilst income-deprived neighbourhoods tend to have lower levels of self-reported quality of life, they also tend to score higher on access to some services and on housing affordability.

9 AO1 = 6

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	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate. (AO1) Understanding addresses a narrow range of geographical ideas, which lacks detail. (AO1)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Understanding addresses a range of geographical ideas, which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO1)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Understanding addresses a broad range of geographical ideas, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO1)

Relevant content may include:

- Conflict and contest around regeneration strategies is often as a result of conflicting priorities and stakeholder interests. Conflict can arise over what aspect of regeneration should be prioritised; whether it's social, economic, or environmental.
- Small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) may prioritise infrastructure improvements, while residents may prioritise addressing antisocial behaviour or enhancing access to affordable healthy food and sports facilities.
- Top-down regeneration schemes initiated by local or national governments tend to benefit from better funding but may lack flexibility in responding to local concerns and preferences.
- Bottom-up approaches led by local groups may better represent community voices but can suffer from limited resources and dependence on individual leaders, potentially excluding marginalised voices and exacerbating any social divisions within communities.
- Local authorities may aim to incorporate community input. However, bureaucratic processes and competing interests may delay implementation or lead to partial representation of community needs.
- Private companies, who may move more quickly, may prioritise profit margins over social considerations, potentially sidelining essential community amenities such as playing areas, shops, or clinics, thus heightening tensions and distrust among residents.
- Property regeneration projects lead to newcomers being attracted to the newly regenerated area which can push existing residents out of the area that was regenerated 'for them' or lead to tensions due to newcomers' differing lifestyles and values.
- Low political engagement among time-poor or less confident residents may hinder effective participation in planning processes.
- Ethnic tensions and perceptions of power imbalances can exacerbate conflicts, particularly when certain groups feel marginalised or overlooked in regeneration strategies.
- Some strategies receive more media coverage than others, in which case they may be open to more scrutiny, and, therefore, contestation. Such media coverage may be driven by pressure groups, such as anti-ULEZ (Ultra-Low Emissions Zone) campaigners in Greater London.

10 AO1 = 3 / AO2 = 3

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated or generic elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information inconsistently. Connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question may be irrelevant. (AO2)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information to find some relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information logically to find fully relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- The rate and type of housing development directly impacts economic regeneration, and both are impacted by planning laws, which are aimed at balancing growth with environmental sustainability and community needs.
- Relaxing planning laws can spur economic growth by attracting more workers to areas, but unchecked development risks sprawl and environmental degradation. Concerns over building on greenfield land is present in many UK cities.
- Housing affordability remains a critical issue and it is closely related to planning laws and housing supply. While increased housing supply should lower prices, the rise in demand driven by demographic shifts and immigration often outpaces it, meaning that housing costs remain high.
- Government interventions such as Help to Buy schemes and requirements for developers to build affordable housing aim to address affordability concerns. However, there is a lack of price controls on rents and political reluctance to challenge homeowner and landlord interests. Inclusive and affordable regeneration strategies are often challenged by this constraint, as shown by the expense of even 'affordable' housing in Queen Elizabeth Park, London.

AO2

- As shown on the graph, completions of private housing were low in the late 1970s and early 2010s; this is linked to affordability issues (deindustrialisation in the late 1970s and the impacts of the Global Financial Crisis in the early 2010s).
- The dominance of private housing construction, coupled with declining local authority housing (since the late 1970s, as shown in the graph) and limited affordability measures, exacerbates housing inequalities and affordability challenges, especially for low-income households and marginalised communities.

- House building targets present challenges at the local level, where existing residents express concerns over loss of green space and community character. Despite government mandates to meet ambitious targets, deadlines have consistently been missed since 2007, therefore levels of house building have not reached the levels of the 1980s to early 2000s.
- Postwar governments between the 1940s and 1970s prioritised housing large proportions of Britain's population in affordable housing, usually provided by the local authority.

11 AO1 = 3 / AO2 = 3

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated or generic elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information inconsistently. Connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question may be irrelevant. (AO2)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information to find some relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information logically to find fully relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- Changes to the living environment can influence economic vitality, social cohesion, and community wellbeing.
- Laws and guidance, such as pedestrianisation, can improve quality of life. By encouraging people to walk and interact more freely, this promotes social connectivity and community engagement, fostering stronger bonds among residents and enhancing attachment to place.
- Including benches and other areas where pedestrians can safely gather can not only contribute to a sense of belonging and collective identity, but also cultivate feelings of pride and ownership in the regenerated area, fostering a positive community spirit and reinforcing the success of regeneration efforts.
- Although not shown in the photos, increasing and improving the provision of green space is another change to the living environment, which influences the success of regeneration. Green areas allow space for residents to relax, walk, etc. They can attract investment too, as they convey an impression that the natural and built environment is well cared for.

AO2

- In the photo, wider pavements might enhance pedestrian accessibility, facilitating larger groups of visitors and promoting increased spending in local shops and restaurants. The resultant boost in economic activity not only stimulates business growth but also generates higher local business tax revenue, contributing to the overall financial sustainability of the area.
- Cleaning up the brickwork, as shown in the photo, can attract more affluent shoppers and diners, fostering a vibrant and attractive urban ambience that further stimulates commercial activity and employment opportunities, thus reducing unemployment rates and enhancing economic resilience.
- Adding double yellow lines, as shown in the photo, will result in cleaner air and less noise pollution, plus a feeling of pedestrian safety, which may drive footfall.

12 AO1 = 3 / AO2 = 3

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated or generic elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information inconsistently. Connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question may be irrelevant. (AO2)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information to find some relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding to geographical information logically to find fully relevant connections/relationships between stimulus material and the question. (AO2)

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- Some UK deindustrialised cities adopt diverse regeneration strategies for a number of geographical, economic, and social reasons which are place-specific, and which are shaped by their unique contexts.
- Some schemes focus on infrastructure. For example, in the late 1980s, the UK government chose a comprehensive approach for the once-thriving industrial area of London’s Docklands, emphasising infrastructure development and attracting financial services. This strategy reflected London's global economic role and the need to transition from traditional industries.
- Some schemes hoped to attract industries back to their areas. This applies to a broad band of primarily urban areas in the north of England, from Liverpool to Hull, which sought funding for science and innovation, aimed at rebalancing the national economy. This strategy is rooted in addressing regional disparities and promoting economic growth beyond the capital, which have been hampered in recent decades by centralised decision-making.

- Some deindustrialised cities have pursued cultural regeneration; this has been especially successful when such places make use of pre-existing cultural achievements. Liverpool leveraged its musical heritage, including The Beatles, to make a success of its year as the European City of Culture in 2008.
- Some schemes focus on revitalising stretched transport infrastructure, such as High Speed 2, which has been championed by many businesses in Birmingham, and its mayor.

AO2

- In the source, the decision-makers behind Leeds 2023 have tried to make the most of its pre-existing cultural institutions such as the Royal Armouries Museum and its ‘cultural quarter’.
- The source is clear about its aim to ‘attract people and investment’ via the ‘soft’ route of persuasion.
- ‘Local pride’ is also given as a reason for the Year of Culture; some places may feel that their residents need a boost of pride to encourage an air of optimism, and to avoid out-migration.
- The focus on ‘highbrow’ culture suggests an attempt to appeal to an economically affluent demographic.

13 AO1 = 6

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rewardable material.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate. (AO1) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of geographical ideas, which lacks detail. (AO1)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) • Understanding addresses a range of geographical ideas, which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO1)
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) • Understanding addresses a broad range of geographical ideas, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO1)

Relevant content may include:

- Everyone’s lived experience of a place is unique and will affect their attachment to a place and level of engagement with it.
- Lived experience varies due to age and length of residence. Typically, younger residents and newer arrivals will be more likely to embrace more radical changes associated with regeneration. But, carefully handled, as in the case of Bradford’s City Park and its mirror pool, a broad range of people will be kept ‘on board’.
- Typically, unless they see direct and significant changes in their quality of life and living standards, more deprived residents will be more sceptical of regeneration schemes.
- Ethnicity and gender may also play a role in the perception of regeneration schemes.
- When local landmarks are retained and celebrated, this often helps regeneration schemes to be accepted. This helped Sheffield’s residents to largely embrace the redevelopment of its famous Park Hill flat complex.

- Regeneration programmes impact on people both in terms of their lived experience of change and their perception and attachment to the regenerated place.
- Some candidates may explore one scheme in depth; for instance, the London Olympic Park regeneration. Stakeholders evaluate its success through varied lenses shaped by their priorities and lived experiences.
 - Economic indicators suggest success, with improved transport connections and forecasts of 20,000 jobs by 2030, and increased investments in local infrastructure. However, concerns persist regarding social and demographic outcomes, as only a fraction of the planned affordable housing has so far materialised, exacerbating affordability challenges for original residents.
 - Also, the regeneration's social impact is perceived diversely. While initiatives like the East Bank and West Ham FC's occupancy of the Olympic stadium evoke local pride and cultural vibrancy, challenges persist, such as stalled redevelopment plans for the Carpenters Estate.
 - Environmental successes, including expanded parkland and habitat restoration, contribute to improved air quality and ecological sustainability, yet the extent of environmental benefits may vary among stakeholders.
 - There are a wide variety of interest groups, including homeowners, renters, and older residents. Each group's assessment of success will reflect their distinct perspectives, priorities, and lived realities. While international bodies like the International Olympic Committee commend the regeneration for fostering happier and healthier communities, critiques from remaining council tenants highlight displacement concerns and unmet expectations.

14 AO1 = 5 / AO2 = 15

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas, making limited and rarely logical connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an interpretation with limited coherence and support from evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an unsupported or generic conclusion, drawn from an argument that is unbalanced or lacks coherence. (AO2)
2	6–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is occasionally relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas with limited but logical connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial interpretation that is supported by some evidence but has limited coherence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, partially supported by an unbalanced argument with limited coherence. (AO2)
3	11–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and accurate. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find some logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial but coherent interpretation that is supported by some evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, largely supported by an argument that may be unbalanced or partially coherent. (AO2)
4	16–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find fully logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce a full and coherent interpretation that is supported by evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a rational, substantiated conclusion, fully supported by a balanced argument that is drawn together coherently. (AO2)

(Responses that demonstrate only AO1 without any AO2 should be awarded marks as follows: Level 1 AO1 performance: 1 mark; Level 2 AO1 performance: 2 marks; Level 3 AO1 performance: 3 marks; Level 4 AO1 performance: 4–5 marks.)

The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all of it. Other relevant material not suggested below must also be credited.

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- National government decisions (policies) around immigration, financial regulations, and enterprise zones can affect the social and economic characteristics of urban and rural areas.
- Social characteristics include health, education, and crime, as well as contributory factors such as diet, leisure, and access to public and active transport.
- Economic characteristics include the productivity of an area, the split between small, medium, and large employees, and vacancy rates in business parks and/or retail areas
- Socio-economic characteristics include employment: unemployment rates, employment structure (the split between primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary employment), the split of part-time vs full-time, and temporary (including 'zero hours') vs permanent contracts.

AO2

- Candidates may argue that local government decisions are more plentiful and wider-ranging than national government decisions, and they may be better designed to fit local social and economic circumstances.
- However, they are necessarily more spatially limited.
- They may argue that national government decisions, backed up by more sweeping planning laws and larger funding pots, have a more profound and longer-lasting impact in certain areas (e.g. London 2012 Olympics; HS2; decisions about SEZs and highway construction).
- However, national government actions are often longer in gestation, they may miss large swathes of the country, and they may be less sensitive to local specificities.
- Decisions about international migration can promote or restrict growth and investment. Open-door policy (e.g. when the UK was part of the EU) leads to free movement of labour into the UK; EU labour filled skills gaps and worked for lower wages; increased tax revenue. Brexit led to a closed-door policy, shutting out EU workers and leading to shortage of workers in certain sectors (e.g. farm labourers and abattoir staff).
- Decisions around financial regulation/deregulation can influence how many TNCs (transnational corporations) in the FBS (finance and business services) sector locate in the UK.
- Candidates may refer to HS2, which will link London and Birmingham. More impact will be felt in Birmingham, as it is a smaller city with fewer major transport links. The proponents of HS2 argue that the economy of Birmingham will benefit as more companies will choose to locate there, as they will be able to have easier access to suppliers, customers, and finance from London. Others counter that Birmingham may suffer socially as more people may be tempted to commute from the city to London, reducing its business synergy, and eroding the sense of attachment that many may feel for the city, turning it more into a commuter satellite of the capital.
- Other infrastructure projects, such as high-speed broadband, have been crucial to the economic success of many businesses in a wider range of cities.
- Housing policy is a crucial way in which national government decisions impact the society of urban areas. Government targets (for example, to build 300,000 houses a year by 2030) and laws set the boundaries within which local housing decisions are made.
- Large-scale social housing schemes, such as in the Gorbals in Glasgow, can help to counter post-industrial decline.

- The continued preservation of ‘green belt’ land has resulted in increasing housing density, including suburban densification, as well as contributing to house price inflation.
- National governments can also give tax breaks or other incentives to companies to encourage companies to invest in urban areas. These have had significant local success, but they have little influence over the structural, long-term reasons for regional inequalities, such as deindustrialisation, which has been hastened by automation and by the Global Shift.
- Some local governments have been successful in setting in motion long-term projects to attract investment. For example, Cambridge City Council was instrumental in facilitating the city’s Science Park and St John’s Innovation Centre. These have helped to make it the most influential hub in the UK in terms of pharmaceuticals (for example, it hosts AstraZeneca), and one of the most influential in terms of IT. But the council has been less successful in keeping housing affordable for the resulting influx of workers and those in ancillary industries.
- However, many local government regeneration efforts have been constrained by caps and cuts to their budget, especially since the austerity measures introduced in 2010 in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis. Many local government projects have instead become dependent on bidding processes for national funding, such as the Future High Streets Fund and for the UK City of Culture prize.
- However, cities that have not secured funding from such schemes have tended to find their influence on social and economic characteristics has been restricted.

Example answer: Government decisions are crucial in determining the economic and social characteristics of urban areas. National government decisions affect the economic climate within which urban areas develop. National infrastructure projects impact on some cities more than others, while housing policy decisions can influence the attractiveness and affordability of housing, and incentives such as SEZs often sway business decision-makers. They also determine educational and training provision, and they decide the number and categories of migrants who are allowed to enter the country. Local governments work within the constraints of national government laws and funding: the latter has been cut since 2010, so they have less of an influence on urban areas than previously. However, they make the vast majority of planning decisions and influence many neighbourhood and city centre plans.

National governments make decisions on large-scale infrastructure projects which will affect urban areas to varying degrees. A high-speed railway line (HS2) will link London and Birmingham by the mid 2030s, and it will directly influence both economies, although more impact will be felt in Birmingham, as it is a smaller city with fewer major transport links. The proponents of HS2 argue that the economy of Birmingham will benefit as more companies will choose to locate there, as they will be able to have easier access to suppliers, customers, and finance from London. Others counter that Birmingham may suffer socially as more people may be tempted to commute from the city to London, reducing its business synergy, and eroding the sense of attachment that many may feel for the city, turning it more into a commuter satellite of the capital. Other infrastructure projects, such as high-speed broadband, have been crucial to the economic success of many businesses in a wider range of cities.

Housing policy is a crucial way in which national government decisions impact the society of urban areas. Government targets (e.g. to build 300,000 houses a year by 2030) and laws set the boundaries within which local housing decisions are made; these mainly impact big housebuilding firms such as Redrow and Persimmon. In another example, the Scottish government has backed large-scale housing schemes, such as in the Gorbals in Glasgow, which has seen a reversal of its post-industrial decline. However, the continued preservation of ‘green belt’ land has resulted in increasing housing density, including suburban densification, as well as contributing to house price inflation.

National governments can also give tax breaks or other incentives to companies to encourage companies to invest in urban areas. For example, Enterprise Zones (EZs), which have operated in England since 2011. These

involve the government giving business rate discounts of up to 100% over a five-year period, allowances for capital costs, and simplified planning laws, in 48 EZs (for example, Aire Valley, Leeds). The success of these zones has been shown by their adoption by devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. However, they have little influence over the structural, long-term reasons for regional inequalities, such as deindustrialisation, which has been hastened by automation and by the Global Shift. Investment in infrastructure and businesses in areas outside of London and the South-East also continues to be far lower than that enjoyed by the capital, with knock-on impacts on economic and social indicators.

Local governments are keen to maintain or grow their economies. Some have been successful in setting in train long-term projects to attract investment. For example, Cambridge City Council was instrumental in facilitating the city's Science Park and St John's Innovation Centre. These have helped to make it the most influential hub in the UK in terms of pharmaceuticals (for example, it hosts AstraZeneca), and one of the most influential in terms of IT. But the council has been less successful in keeping housing affordable for the resulting influx of workers and those in ancillary industries. This challenge has also been faced by Newham Borough Council, who, in partnership with the London Legacy Development Corporation, has developed the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London. While large organisations, such as University College London, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, have been attracted to the site, and unemployment levels have fallen, housing remains unaffordable for many residents.

However, many local government regeneration efforts have been constrained by caps and cuts to their budget, especially since the austerity measures introduced in 2010 in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis. Many local government projects have instead become dependent on bidding processes for national funding, such as the Future High Streets Fund and for the UK City of Culture prize. Bradford, West Yorkshire, was successful in winning funding of £10 million to become 2025 City of Culture, leading to growth in the cultural and hospitality sectors and the creation of up to 7,000 new jobs. However, cities that have not secured funding from such schemes have tended to find their influence on social and economic characteristics has been restricted.

Although I have argued that national government decisions are more influential than those of local government, at least three other factors, operating at scales other than national or local, also affect the economies and societies of cities. One is a shift towards regional decision-making bodies, such as regional and city mayors' offices, often tasked with transport and other infrastructure briefs. Another is the impact of private corporations, including technology companies, on governmental policy. And third are international decisions that influence government policies. This includes agreements made at climate and biodiversity conferences. It is also difficult to determine the relative impact of decisions made by different layers of government in a complex and dynamic social and economic climate.

15 AO1 = 5 / AO2 = 15

Level	Marks	Description
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1	1–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas, making limited and rarely logical connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an interpretation with limited coherence and support from evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an unsupported or generic conclusion, drawn from an argument that is unbalanced or lacks coherence. (AO2)
2	6–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is occasionally relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas with limited but logical connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial interpretation that is supported by some evidence but has limited coherence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, partially supported by an unbalanced argument with limited coherence. (AO2)
3	11–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and accurate. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find some logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial but coherent interpretation that is supported by some evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, largely supported by an argument that may be unbalanced or partially coherent. (AO2)
4	16–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find fully logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce a full and coherent interpretation that is supported by evidence. (AO2) Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a rational, substantiated conclusion, fully supported by a balanced argument that is drawn together coherently. (AO2)

(Responses that demonstrate only AO1 without any AO2 should be awarded marks as follows: Level 1 AO1 performance: 1 mark; Level 2 AO1 performance: 2 marks; Level 3 AO1 performance: 3 marks; Level 4 AO1 performance: 4–5 marks.)

The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all of it. Other relevant material not suggested below must also be credited.

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- The success of regeneration is often viewed differently by individuals and groups of stakeholders.
- Stakeholders in urban regeneration include planners, national and local governments, individuals, local businesses and residents.
- Each stakeholder will have different viewpoints. Local residents may oppose regeneration because investment may lead to gentrification displacing them from their homes. Conflict may arise between these and planners who are fond of regeneration because it may be profitable for them in the future.
- Different stakeholders will assess success using contrasting criteria; their views will depend on the meaning and lived experiences of an urban place and the impact of change caused by regeneration strategies.
- Different stakeholders may also have contrasting views on changes to the image of a place as a result of regeneration. The experiences of place and how the role and function of a particular place is perceived will influence assessment of regeneration successes.
- There are likely to be differences between the views of local and national governments, local businesses, environmentalists and residents. This demonstrates how different urban stakeholders have different criteria for assessing the success of urban regeneration.

AO2

- The regeneration of Salford Quays is an example outlining strategies used in the regeneration of an urban place and the contested nature of these decisions within local communities.
- Once a thriving industrial port, by the 1980s the area was derelict.
- Salford Quays Development Plan (1985-95) – development of former industrial land by Salford City Council and private investors; opening of attractions such as the Lowry theatre and gallery and the Imperial War Museum North; development of MediaCity UK (2007-2011) for media business including the BBC.
- Assessment of success is contested: residential apartments developed are too expensive for local residents and many have been bought by overseas investors; very few of the jobs in the new developments (including Media City) have gone to local residents; some local landmarks have been destroyed in the development, condemned by local historians and residents.
- It is possible to see Salford Quays from many different viewpoints because different stakeholders have different desired outcomes from regeneration:
 - local council wants to attract investment, so prioritise attractive buildings and heritage. They may measure success through number of jobs created, reduction in derelict land, IMD data
 - existing residents want better housing, community facilities, improved built environment and job opportunities. Success might be measured through increased in income, better health outcomes and increased life expectancy, better access to services.
 - property developers aim to maximise profit including sales and rental values, they will value improved image to drive sales. Success may be measured through number of investors, land value and profit.
 - local businesses may want an increased local population (customers). Measures of success may include a rising population (especially of young people) and increased turnover.
 - national government wants regeneration that aligns with national priorities and increased affluence (leading to a reduction in benefit-dependency)

16 AO1 = 5 / AO2 = 15

Level	Marks	Description
Level 1	1–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated elements of geographical knowledge and understanding, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas, making limited and rarely logical connections/relationships. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an interpretation with limited coherence and support from evidence. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce an unsupported or generic conclusion, drawn from an argument that is unbalanced or lacks coherence. (AO2)
Level 2	6–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is occasionally relevant and may include some inaccuracies. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas with limited but logical connections/relationships. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial interpretation that is supported by some evidence but has limited coherence. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, partially supported by an unbalanced argument with limited coherence. (AO2)
Level 3	11–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates geographical knowledge and understanding, which is mostly relevant and accurate. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find some logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical ideas in order to produce a partial but coherent interpretation that is supported by some evidence. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a conclusion, largely supported by an argument that may be unbalanced or partially coherent. (AO2)
Level 4	16–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate and relevant geographical knowledge and understanding throughout. (AO1) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to find fully logical and relevant connections/relationships. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to produce a full and coherent interpretation that is supported by evidence. (AO2) • Applies knowledge and understanding of geographical information/ideas to come to a rational, substantiated conclusion, fully supported by a balanced argument that is drawn together coherently. (AO2)

Relevant content may include:

AO1

- There is a range of ways to evaluate the need for regeneration.

- Statistical evidence can be used to determine the need for regeneration in your chosen local place. This might include census data, the Index of Multiple Deprivation, and Police statistics.
- Different broadcast media can provide contrasting evidence, questioning the need for regeneration in your chosen local place. This media might include local, regional and national news websites, newspapers, TV and radio stations.
- Other media may include photography, literature, diaries, blogs, and formal and informal art (including street art).
- Different representations of your chosen local place could influence the perceived need for regeneration.
- Candidates may introduce primary data from visits to their local place.

AO2

- Candidates may argue that statistical evidence can be useful for a broad overview of the area and may allow for comparison with other areas (or indeed to track how the local area might change over time). This includes studies such as:
 - If the focus of regeneration is social sustainability, geographical ideas may include reference to the Egan Wheel or the Project for Public Spaces
 - If the focus of regeneration is environmental quality, geographical ideas may include reference to the Local Environmental Quality Survey (DEFRA/Keep Britain Tidy)
 - If the focus of regeneration is retail health, geographical ideas may include reference to the New Economics Foundation's 'Clone Town Survey'
 - If the focus of regeneration is health, geographical ideas may include reference to the Royal Society for Public Health's 'Richter Scale for Health'.
- However, such evidence is reductive (simplistic) and it may not cover all aspects of what may be considered to reflect residents' lived experience, and the reactions of visitors to the area. To be able to understand these angles, qualitative techniques may be used.
- Geographical ideas may include reference to:
 - placemaking studies, based on the work of Jane Jacobs
 - spaciousness, based on the work of Yi-Fu Tuan
 - social inclusion/exclusion, based on the work of Tim Cresswell.
- Candidates may reflect on the fact that qualitative evidence is subjective and may be difficult to generalise and replicate, therefore making it difficult for key players in regeneration to determine priorities for regeneration for the area.
- However, it does allow players to develop a 'richer' sense of place and arguably be more likely to produce plans which involve local residents, including those who may normally not have much of a say in regeneration.
- Candidates may evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of primary and secondary evidence.
- Candidates may evaluate the validity of evidence produced by local and national government bodies, private organisations, charities, NGOs, pressure groups and so on.
- Answers should include reference to detailed place-specific evidence from the candidate's local area. High level answers may include key statistical snapshots such as reference to deciles of deprivation, as well as qualitative evidence such as quotations or rich descriptions of local places.