

The UK Government View

City Regions and Beyond

5 June 2006

Keith Thorpe
 Head of Urban Policy Support – Department for
 Communities and Local Government, UK

Cities and Urban Policy - 1998 to present

1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Deal for Communities pathfinder partnerships announced • Regional Development Agencies Act 	2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Communities Plan launched
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lord Rogers Task Force Final Report 'Towards an Urban Renaissance' published • 3 URC pilots started • CABE established 	2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Way Strategy launched (including 8 City Region Development Programmes)
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater London Authority established • Urban White Paper 	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Communities Summit • PSA8 Liveability target launched • Science Cities announced in Budget • Core City Summits held • 21 URCs in place • Mixed Communities initiative launched • Bristol Accord agreed at EU Ministerial Informal meeting on sustainable communities
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy launched 	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the English Cities launched • Joint HMT/ODPM/DTI Budget paper • Smaller towns and cities summits • GLA Review
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Economic Performance PSA target • Core Cities Working Group set up Urban Summit 		



3

- Globalisation has made the issues we face more complex and demanding
 - Place is more not less important
 - The economy works across cities, regions and neighbourhoods
 - Functional economic markets are more relevant than administrative boundaries e.g. labour, housing, retail
 - Cities with a strong knowledge economy are drivers of national economies
- Cannot deliver for cities, without getting our regions and neighbourhoods right and vice versa

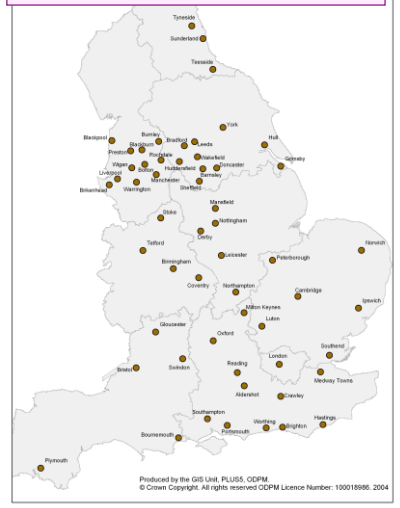
4

New evidence sources

New evidence published in 2006 –

- **State of the English Cities Report**
- A Framework for City-Regions - (SURF and CUPS)
- Urban Task Force Report (No. 2)
- EU Commission consultation report on cities
- OECD Newcastle Territorial Review

56 cities included in the State of the English Cities Report



5

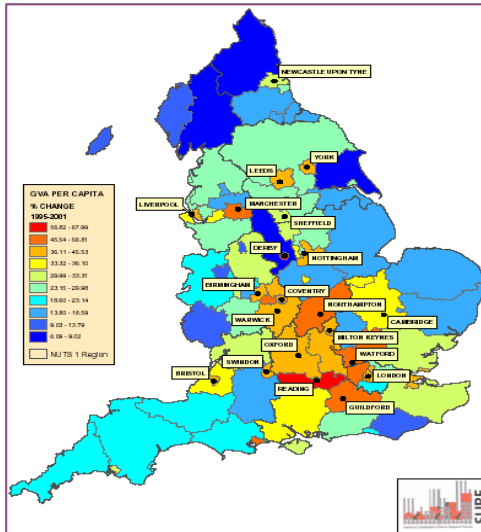
Why city-regions are important

- State of The English Cities report: "city-regions are the appropriate level at which to make (regional and national) economies work"
- Urban Task Force report: "campaign for city-region mayors to integrate the city-region strategies and investment plans"
- ODPM city-regions study¹: "strong city-regions are a necessary condition for ensuring optimal economic growth"
- European Commission: "what is required is flexible co-operation between the different territorial levels [national, regional, local]...to rise to the challenge of global competition, European cities need to achieve critical mass."

¹ SURF-CUPS: Salford and Manchester University, 2005

6

City-regions seem to be leading regional growth...



Economic potential of city-regions

GVA per capita
% change
1995 - 2001

Source: SURF, 2004

A comparison of GVA per capita change between 1995 to 2001 at sub-regional level, shows the higher rates of growth in London and the South East and elsewhere, predominantly in the city-regions e.g. South Manchester, Leeds York

7

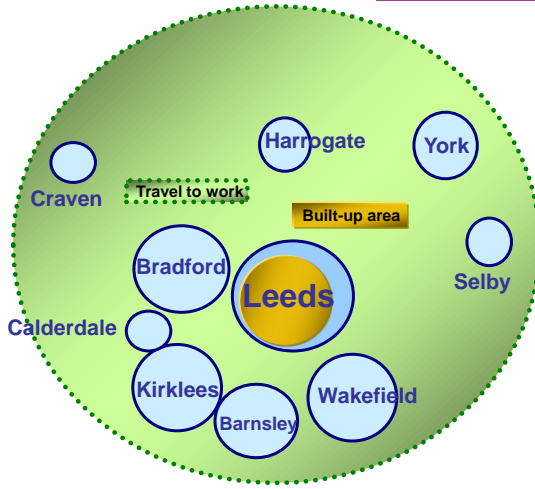
What is a city?

A city can be understood at more than one spatial level:

- **Municipal – the administrative area controlled by the city council**
(example: Manchester City Council, Newcastle City Council)
- **Metropolitan – the contiguous built-up area, including adjacent towns and suburbs**
(example: the area of Manchester covered by the AGMA)
- **City-region - the economic footprint of the city**
(example: the area covered by the Manchester City-Region Development Plan which includes parts of Cheshire and has a strong inter-dependent relationship with Merseyside and Leeds)

8

Cities come in different shapes, sizes and relationships to each other



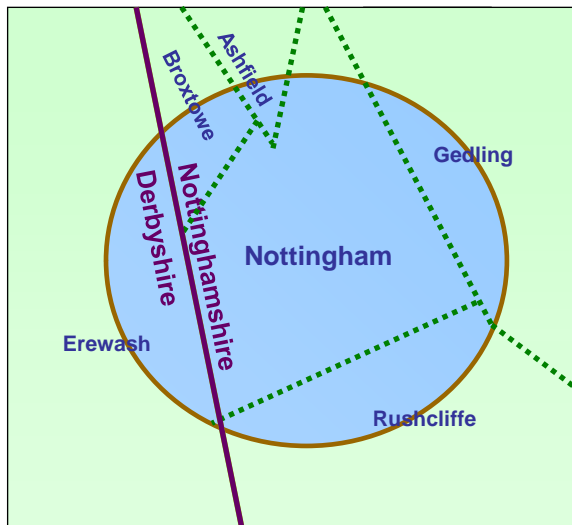
Cities – large, medium and small - are interdependent with each other

- For instance, Leeds is a relatively large and successful city
- But for its long-term success it needs to capture the large economic scale of its city-region

- Represents the administrative city
- Represents the physical city in Leeds
- Represents the travel-to-work area as an indication of the city-region

9

Nottingham



Nottingham is an under-bounded city




It is difficult to take strategic decisions at the metropolitan level, due to the need for agreement with five District Councils and two County Councils

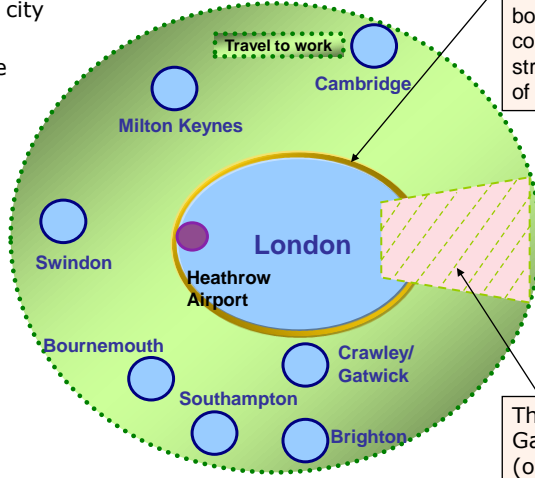
The Nottingham economy overlaps with Derby and Leicester

Therefore a city-region approach makes sense

10

London/Greater South-East

-  Represents the administrative city
-  Represents the physical city
-  Represents the travel-to-work area as an indication of the city-region

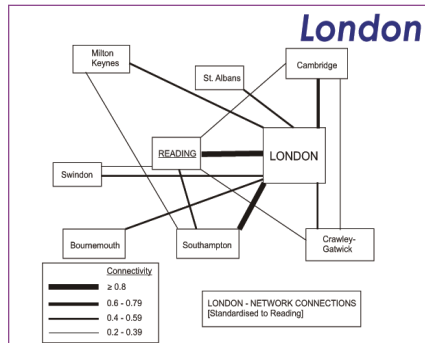
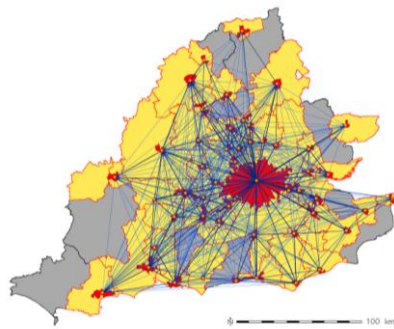


The Administrative City boundary corresponds to the Metropolitan ('built up') City boundary. This has considerable advantages in the strategic planning and delivery of services

London has a large economic footprint due to its scale and dynamism as a major global city. This is reflected in the size of its city-region & the fact that it encompasses a number of other cities

Thames Gateway (opportunity)

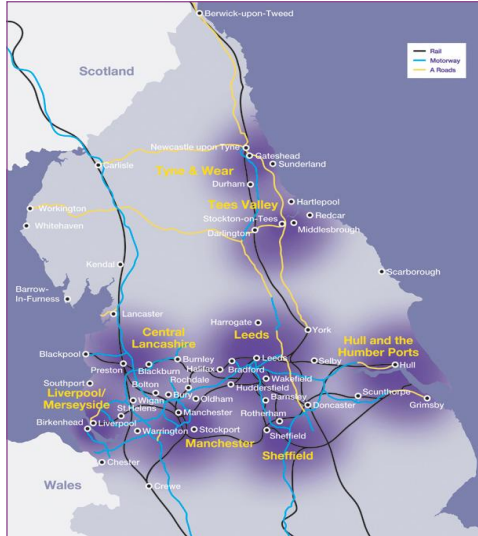
Cities are increasingly inter-connected



Complex network of commuting flows in the London city-region
Source: Polynet

Principal business connections in the London city-region, showing polycentric relationships e.g. Reading -Southampton, Milton Keynes - Southampton
Source: Polynet

- The Northern Way is an initiative led by the three Northern RDAs
- It is a good example of the importance of focussing on different spatial levels – working at pan-regional **and** city-region level
- In the North the city-regions house 90% of its population and more than 90% of its economic activity and assets
- The Northern Way recognises that the eight main city-regions are key to accelerating economic growth in the north



13

- 8 Core Cities continue to prepare and present business cases (**ongoing**)
- Next round of Summits for smaller cities and towns underway (**ongoing**)
- Review of powers and responsibilities of the Mayor and GLA Assembly (**completion by summer 2006**)
- Sub-national review of economic development and regeneration (**Budget 2007**)
- Lyons Inquiry of Local Government (**December 2006**)
- Barker Review of land use planning (**2006**)

14

- Government recognises that city, region and neighbourhood policies are interdependent – they are not alternatives, but must complement each other
- We can't deliver for cities without getting our regions and neighbourhoods right, and vice versa
- City-regions are important. They reflect not only functional economic markets, but also the way that people live their lives – where they live, work, shop and play
- However, not all urban places fall within city-region boundaries. The second round of visits to smaller cities and towns recognises the importance of these places
- Government will not adopt a 'top-down' approach:
 - Each Core City has prepared its own business case for change
 - Smaller cities and towns will be invited to choose from a menu of options, those which best reflect their own personal circumstances & aspirations
- Excellent connectivity & liveability and high productivity are key to the creation of successful cities and regions