



Economics of Transport in City-Regions

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Centre for Cities

- Independent urban policy group; set up 2005
- Focus: economic performance of UK cities
- Business/enterprise; labour mkts; infrastructure
- Forthcoming:
 - Worklessness in cities (June)
 - Housing and Urban Economies (July)
 - ‘Greening’ urban buildings (July)
 - Integrated Transport (Sept)

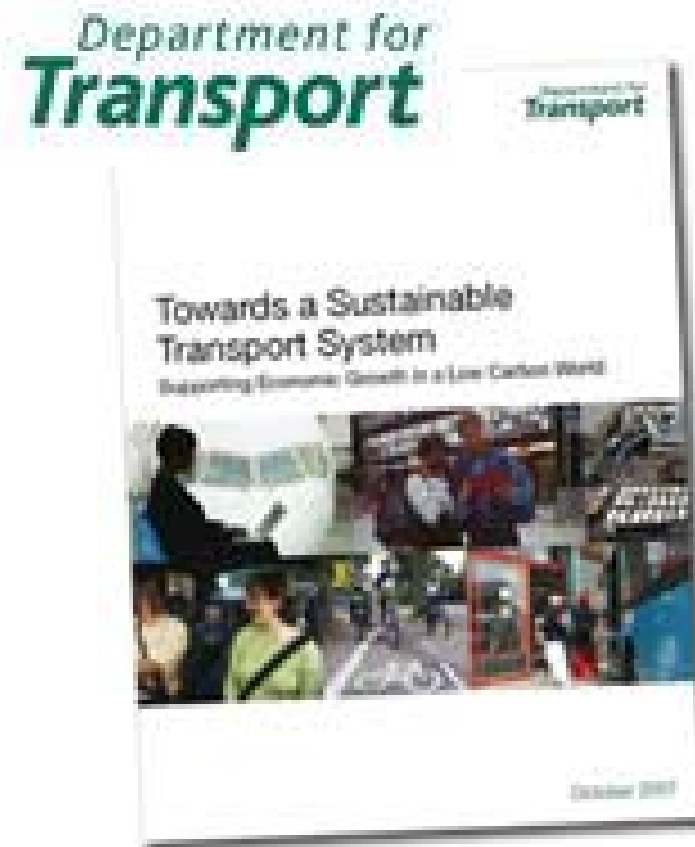


Today's presentation

1. Eddington, *TASTS*: 'read-out' for city-regions
2. Economic case for investment in city-regions
3. Suggested actions for city-regions



1. Eddington, TaSTS, and city-regions...





2. Case for investment in city-regions





Case for investment in city-regions

1. MACROECONOMIC
2. MICROECONOMIC
3. POLITICAL
4. AGGLOMERATION EFFECTS



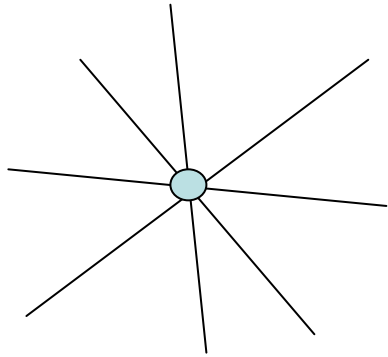
Case for investment in city-regions

AGGLOMERATION

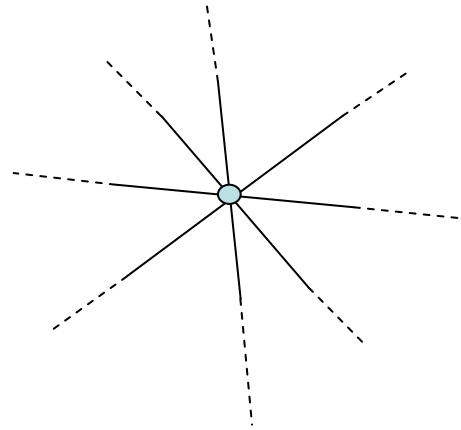
- Our research: up to 25% of potential benefits of investment in access to Leeds city centre go uncounted
- Our research: improving links from successful cities to smaller towns can also deliver economic kick-start
- “Hidden benefits” can tip the scales in favour of investment in city-regional transport ... if the revisions to NATA are right
- urban transport (short-term), support economic growth (medium-term), yield social/equity benefits (longer-term)



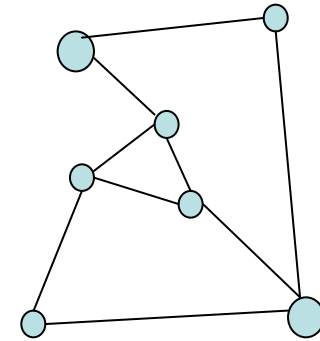
Case for investment: prioritisation



1. Access to centres
(5-10 years)



2. Peripheral areas
(10-15 years)



3. Inter-regional
(15+ years)



3. Actions for city-regions

- **2008-2009:**
 - Take up Local Transport Bill provisions – even if difficult
 - Follow through on TIF bids
 - Prioritise local economy: ‘linking people to jobs’ – critical to boost economic resilience and flexibility
 - Win greater resource flexibility – BSOG, RSG, etc
 - **BUSES key to city-regional economies in the short-term**



3. Actions for city-regions

- **2010-onward:**
 - Use BRS, CIL to invest in transport as economy improves
 - Elections: make strong case for investment: ‘connected cities’ will deliver economic improvements for UK plc
- **Big questions:**
 - **How use transport networks to link people to jobs?**
 - **How finance future transport improvements?**
 - **City-regional mayors as transport, investment champions?**



3. Brief conclusions

- City-regional transport critical to national growth
- BUT still need more compelling ‘case for investment in city-regions’
- Cities must also take action:
 - Prioritise existing resources – economic rationale
 - Take up new powers
 - Improve governance arrangements



Questions / Comments ?

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