



Setting the Scene for Urban Environments in Canada and the United Kingdom

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Introduction

Just over a decade ago, Lord Rogers appointed to chair 'Urban Task Force', its remit was to:

'Identify causes of urban decline', recommend 'practical solutions to **bring people back into our cities**', and 'establish a new vision for urban regeneration, founded on the principles of **design excellence, social well-being and environmental responsibility**' (DETR 1999: 1).



Urban Policy White Paper (2000) and the Sustainable Communities Plan (2003) continue to guide national and local policy; supported by Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE)







Canada-UK Colloquium on 'Cities and National Success', Cardiff, November 2005

Y GWIR YN YR HORIZONS
YR ANIMALS AWENSING

City Institute






What Next?


Colloquium concluded that well-connected, well-designed, inclusive cities will be key drivers of national success in C21st

Nevertheless, it raised important questions that have yet to be resolved


To address them, we need systematic, evidence based sound research in the years to come....



- What *are* the key ingredients for successful and sustainable urban development: economic, social, environmental, political (governance)? Are they entirely *complementary, compatible*?
- How to *measure* 'success' along and across these dimensions? How to *distil the evidence* needed to inform action?



- How to break down barriers - between professions and institutions - to *facilitate creative solutions*?
- How to build *workable relationships* between levels of government? And between cities, business and civil society?
- How can an urban renaissance - based on principles of *social justice and equality* - be delivered *from national down to neighbourhood level*?





'Canada-UK Cities Group' 2007-

The main idea is to bring together practitioners and researchers who want to compare Canadian and UK experience of changing urban environments

The emphasis is on mutual learning, transfer of knowledge and best practice

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In this context, our principal aims are to:

- Encourage synergies between diverse disciplines and practices
- Facilitate collaboration between researchers and practitioners
- Develop links between research communities in Canada and the UK



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