

The economy in question: five assertions, five challenges

Presentation to BWPI/ipeg seminar on What's next for the Manchester city region?

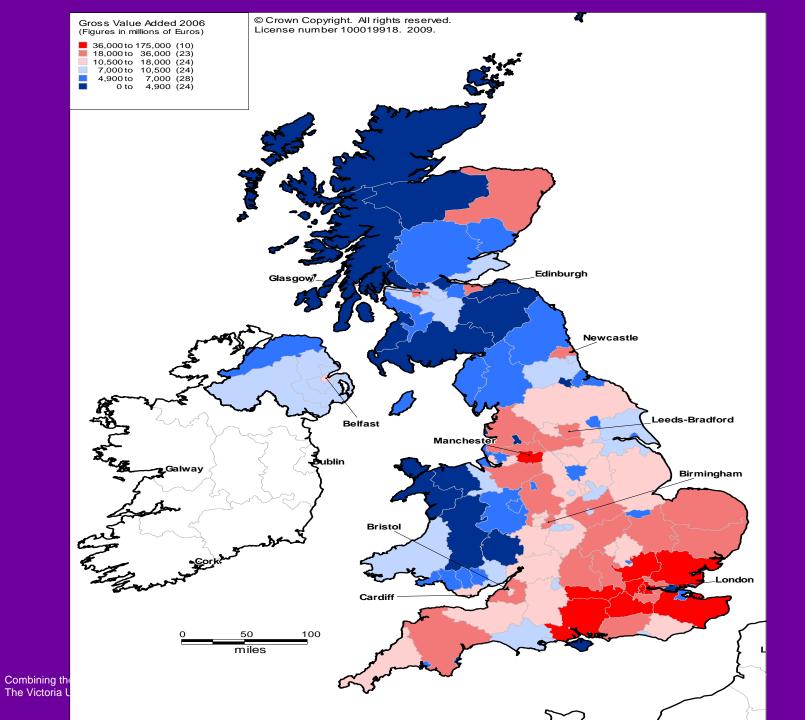
Prof. Alan Harding, ipeg

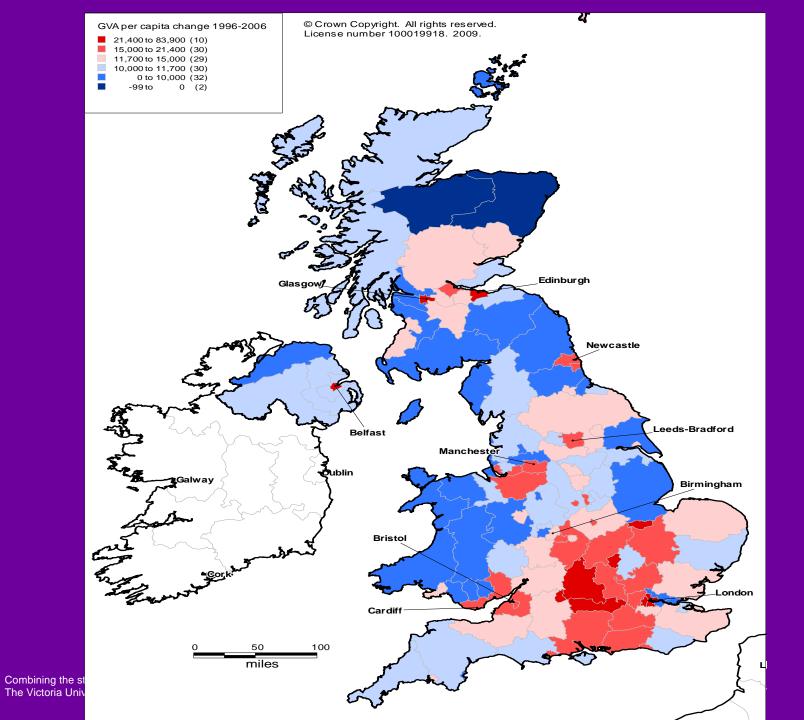
5 assertions

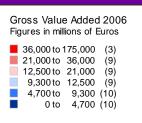
- We have just lived through a 'Manchester miracle'....
- ... whose characteristics are well established and consistent with a 'new agglomeration' across the developed world..
- It has been uneven, geographically and socially, and the bust is exacerbating the divisions
- The public sector has played a crucial role in terms of funding, leadership and innovation
- The impending public sector crisis is therefore a challenge, but also an opportunity for the Manchester city region

The Manchester Miracle

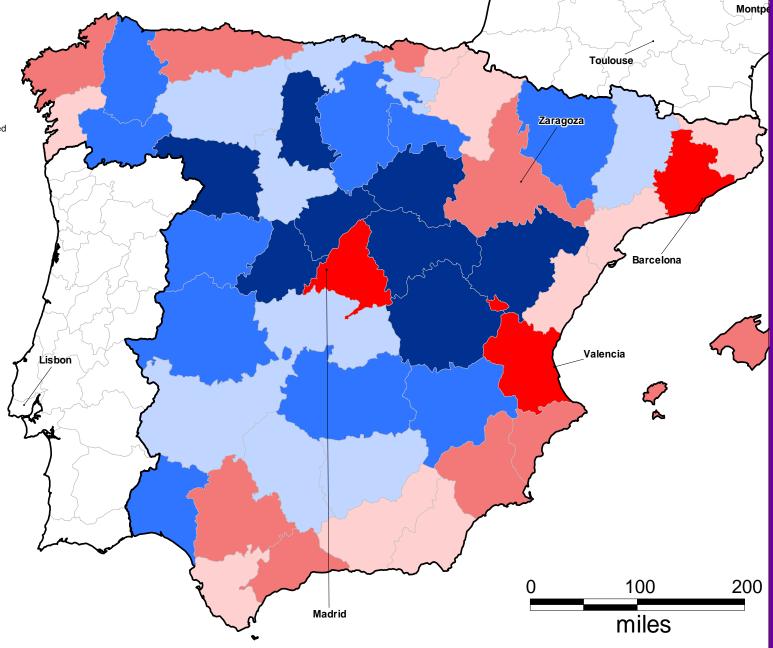
Sector employment change in MCR, 1981-2006						
	MCR North			MCR South		
	2006	81-06	% +/-	2006	81-06	% change
Manufacturing	97.2	-123.9	-56.0%	89.0	-96.8	-52.1%
Utilities	1.0	-8.2	-89.2%	3.1	-18.5	-85.5%
Construction	52.5	8.9	20.4%	65.3	2.9	4.6%
Transp/Comms	35.6	6.6	22.6%	78.3	18.1	30.0%
Education/Health	122.6	44.8	57.5%	187.5	66.3	54.8%
Pub Admin/defence	24.6	-6.4	-20.6%	43.4	-13.2	-23.4%
Fin & Bus Services	80.5	40.4	100.7%	280.7	156.5	125.9%
Distn & Hotels	149.7	23.6	18.7%	228.2	44.1	24.0%
Other Services	36.3	11.0	43.5%	58.5	21.0	56.1%
Total	602.6	-10.6	-1.7%	1040.8	178.5	20.7%

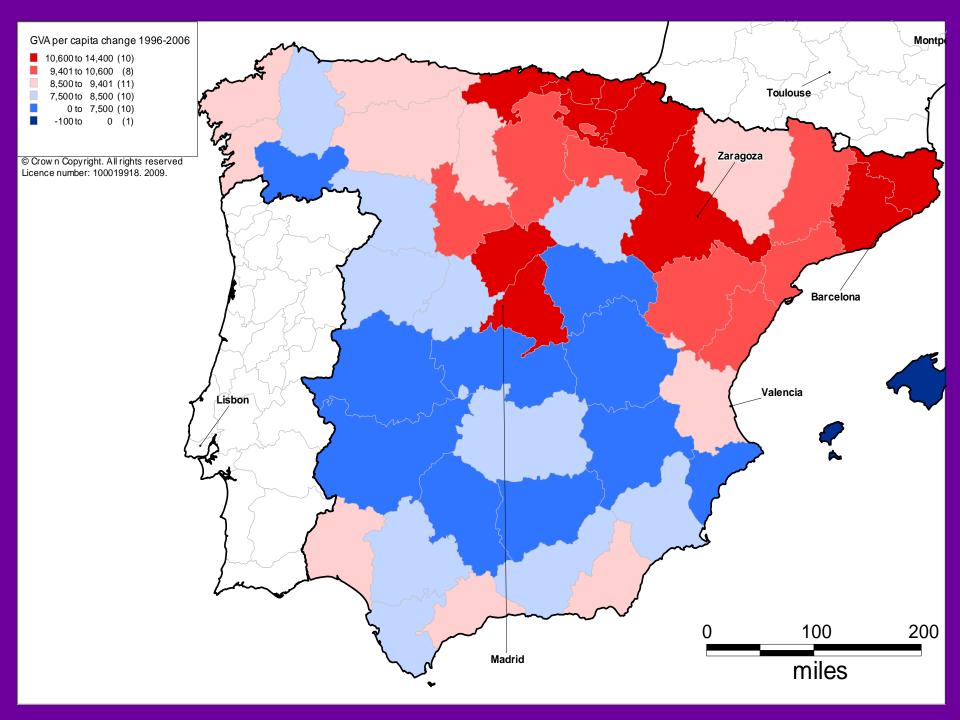






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Five challenges to an incoming Govt.

- Develop focus on (selected) CRs and national economic performance rather than 'let a 1000 SRs bloom'
- Focus on purposeful CR devolution as new form of centrallocal relations, not decentralisation as dumping of responsibility
- Recognise crucial role of 'eds & meds' in driving private sector innovation
- Think about capacity for CR strategy delivery as well as formal, internal CR accountability
- Recognise potential of CR policy innovation in relation to public service modernisation (efficiency and effectiveness)