

**Urban Renewal: Scottish
Approaches in a Wider and
Longer Context**
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Broad sweep, Big points

1. Image of city, renewal changes after 1990
2. Research gains; statistical not causal nor core evaluation questions
3. Contrasting Policies over countries

1. Understanding **ROLE** Cities and Neighbourhoods

In UK, Scotland

- Beyond Decay, Decline, Disadvantage
- Not Quite a New Synthesis on CCC
- But Recognition that cities
 - Connected spaces, Networks
 - Sectoral interactions, Endogeneities
 - Place matters, and accessibility/space
 - Spatial structures

**LOCAL SYSTEMS GROUND, TRANSFORM THE
GLOBAL**

**RECOGNISED IN SCOTLAND, AUSTRALIA, NOT NZ,
NOT CANADA**

1....Neighbourhoods as Well as metro

If Metro the major physical, environmental economy 'functional space', neighbourhood is where social systems cohere (in part, too polar)

- Policy moves from 'area' to 'place community' to holistic 'neighbourhood'
- Rhetoric, research bit loose on overlap
- Substantial progress in last decade

2. Identifying Neighbourhood

- JRF programme (ARP) and ESRC Centre
 - Large in Scotland, now little either
- Ideas Centres
- Government statistics
 - GIS integration
 - Admin data
 - Longitudinal, still weak spatial functional interaction
- Defined areas, deprived or not

2.....BUT Weak ON

- Choices (and changing, critical)
- Interactions and Spillovers
- Changes
 - Baselines
 - Changing places
 - Changing dynamics (eg FTB's)
 - Thresholds, triggers

**SMALL, COMPLEX, OPEN SYSTEMS ARE
LIABLE TO CHAOTIC NON-LINEAR CHANGE
AND TO PATH DEPENDENCY
IN CONSEQUENCE....**

2...FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

- What is the theory (ies) of change
- How replicable are trajectories, policies
- How do you stand up the policy rhetoric in each setting
 - Community-led better
 - Builds social capital
 - Positive neighbourhood spillovers
 - Creative rather than palliative

RENEWAL WORKS?

3. CONTRASTING POLICIES

- Strong intellectual framework, Acad ..All
- Major professional interests....All
- Actual Programmes and scale
 - Not all, and must have one resourced to do so
 - Federal governments weak on this
 - Australian States better then Canada
 - NZ just getting with these ideas

All poor at renewal in decline versus renewal in a growth context.... E.g. Victoria...Melbourne

3. Australian Experience...

- Core change, growth
- Poor displaced to rental edge
- Absence of social, other infrastructure
- Ethnic diversity and visible minorities

READ AND EMULATE ENGLISH POLICY!

- Agencies to capture growth benefits (State)
- 20 social housing renewal areas
- Weak Dandenong partnership

**THE POOR EDGE IS THE AUSTRALIAN
CHALLENGE.....AND CANADA TOO?**

3...and In Canada, WEAKER

- Feds in 1978-1984, Martin in, Harper out
- Few Provinces, ICSPs slipping
- Governance coalitions: Toronto v Vancouver
- Citywide problems: Toronto
 - Service reorganisations
 - Non-profits, innovation
- Professional understanding, inversions
- Some exceptional projects...TCHC
- Some exceptional partnerships

**BUT CURRENTLY LITTLE PROSPECT WIDE RENEWAL
OR CITY POLICY**

III. CHANGING PLACES: UK

KEY LESSONS FROM PALLIATIVE PERIOD PRE-2000 (SCOTLAND LEADS?)

- Put community at heart of change
- Strengthen Regional Offices of Government
- Partnerships across levels of government
- Partnerships across community, private, gov
- Single sector approaches won't work
- Community capacities: recognise, foster, improve
- Core role for Government Agencies
- Contingent, Competitive funding

BUT HOW, HOW MUCH, WHY, WHERE?

III After 2000 Policy Content, and Structure (England leads?)

- Have outcomes at forefront of policy
- Recognise place outcomes and effects
- Coord across sectoral policies, means
- Coord across levels of government
- Subsidiarity, roles for Communities
- Place information, social capital
- But Effectiveness for higher order?

Place Matters for Policies in Processes, Effects and Outcomes

4. NEXT STEPS NOW :INSTITNS

Government and governance

- UK, **Scotland**, LA, community
- Does policy really flow between levels, Reducing? Fracturing?
 - No convergence to English cities, renewal and rest?.
 - Bureaucrats?
- The Compact? Inadequate single outcome agreements?
 - What ensures resource efficiency, improved performance in poor performers
- Enagaging or Strangling Communities
 - Should the community plan be audited regularly, externally?
 - Do communities miss a critical friend
- Does Scotland need more flexible regulation NFPs?

4. NEXT STEPS NOW: Core Challenges

- Resource constraints: de-emphasise renewal
- Gain capture, land and planning
 - 40 years of failure
 - Rebuild regeneration agency around this?
- Faster Planning Process in renewal
- Relaunch faster community ownership
- Service delivery, reconfiguration
- Rebuilding community dynamism?
- Renewal Education, Summer Lighthouse?

SCOTLAND'S RENEWAL SECTOR

- CONTINUE TO BUILD UNDERSTANDING OF RENEWAL CONTRIBUTION TO INCLUSION AND INCREASED COMPETITIVENESS
- LINK TO EMERGING COMMUNITY, CARBON AND CARE CONCERNS
- EMPHASISE THE LOCAL STEPS TO THE BIG GOALS
- POINT UP, IN TIME, HOW GOVERNMENT CAN RE-ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITIES AS WELL AS MUNICIPALITIES
- BUILTS A DECENT EVIDENCE BASE; RESEARCH IDEAS HAVE RUN BEYOND THE FUNDERS CAPACITIES IN NEIGHBOURHOOD RESEARCH

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