

# Some thoughts about future cities

- Transformation process is needed
- How will UK cities behave when confronted with large-scale challenges of in a few decades' time?
- Relativity between
  - Function
  - Technical Competence
  - Political decision-making
  - Scale of proposed interventions
  - Population engagementis evident today in cities such as Lima and Bogotá

# Lima

- Growing city
- Strong economic growth
- Large proportion of the national GDP (50%)
- Large proportion of national population (30%)
- Potential for even more growth
- Infrastructure poor, but there is a willingness to improve it
- Transport systems largely dysfunctional

# Lima

- Historical issue which makes city-wide governance difficult
- Level of constitutional input is high and limiting
- Real difficulties of enforcement where laws exist ...
- ... a more helpful legal framework would be helpful where they do not exist

# Bogotá

- Strong and vibrant capital city
- Has reasonable technical competence
- Some legal systems in place but no city-wide transport organisation for example
- Has had charismatic, transformative and active leadership in the past
- Large differences between rich and poor
- Connection between the political elite and the population?

# Bogotá

- Fantastic achievement in development of the Transmilenio
- Project not sustained
- Connection between systems not strong
- Desire to act – but on the right things?
- Willingness to learn ...
- ... can the transformation process be reinvigorated and sustained?

# So – what about the UK?

- Evidence-based policy
  - Good idea but how is it achieved?
  - Is it meaningful?
- How do we ensure that not only the evidence, but also the meaning, is the driver behind complicated transformative decisions?
- How do we ensure that transformations are sustainable (... not necessarily permanent)