Governance & Policy

How do we integrate the outcomes of our research to form an engineering strategy and provide a pathway to implementation that embraces finance, policy, regulation and governance?

Liveable Cities

liveablecities.org.uk

What we're doing

- Exploring the potentially disruptive opportunities and challenges for the future concerning "smart cities" and transforming knowledge systems.

- Bringing together insights and empirical data about governance priorities, opportunities and barriers in three case studies.

- Undertaking a "deep dive" case study on transport policy.

Who's doing it

University College London:
Prof. Brian Collins, Katie Barnes, Dr. Andrew Chilvers,
Dr. Ellie Cosgrave, Nicole Badstuber

How we're doing it

We are undertaking a scientific review of organisational and management theory, focussing on selected governance models and seeking to draw insight from commercial and other organisational domains.

We are studying the governance of integrated transport policies in a range of cities, comparing and contrasting the factors which have or have not made them successful.

We are investigating the opportunities for increasing city liveability posed by developments in ICT, "smart cities" and the transformations this makes possible for new and existing knowledge systems.

We are doing two rounds of interviews with city leaders and local authority officers in Birmingham, Southampton and Lancaster.

What we've found out

Parallels between organisations and city governance are strong, particularly regarding the need to take cognisance of, and respond to, changing markets and social conditions beyond the control of the organisation or city itself.

Next steps

In the short-term, we will complete the first round of interviews by summer 2014, followed by interview and archival analysis of publically-available data from the local authorities in the case study cities.

In the long-term, we will apply the preliminary findings from the theoretical review to the selected governance models. Outcomes from this exercise will inform the final stages of research, which involve a theoretical, future-focussed analysis of city types.