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# Changing Places: Urban Regeneration in Bristol

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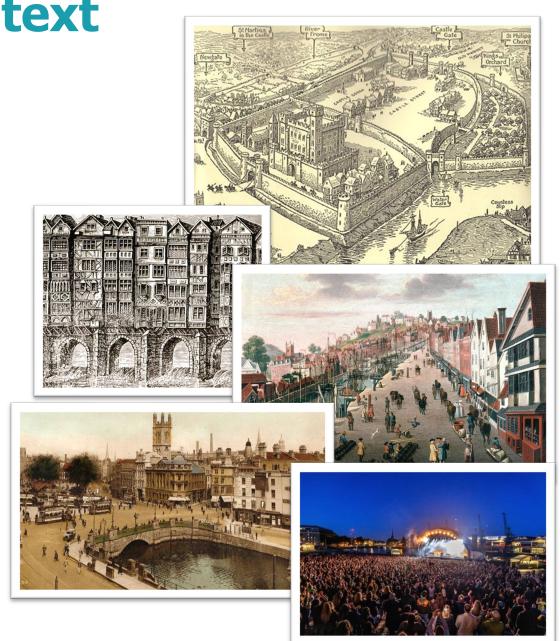
#### **Urban regeneration**

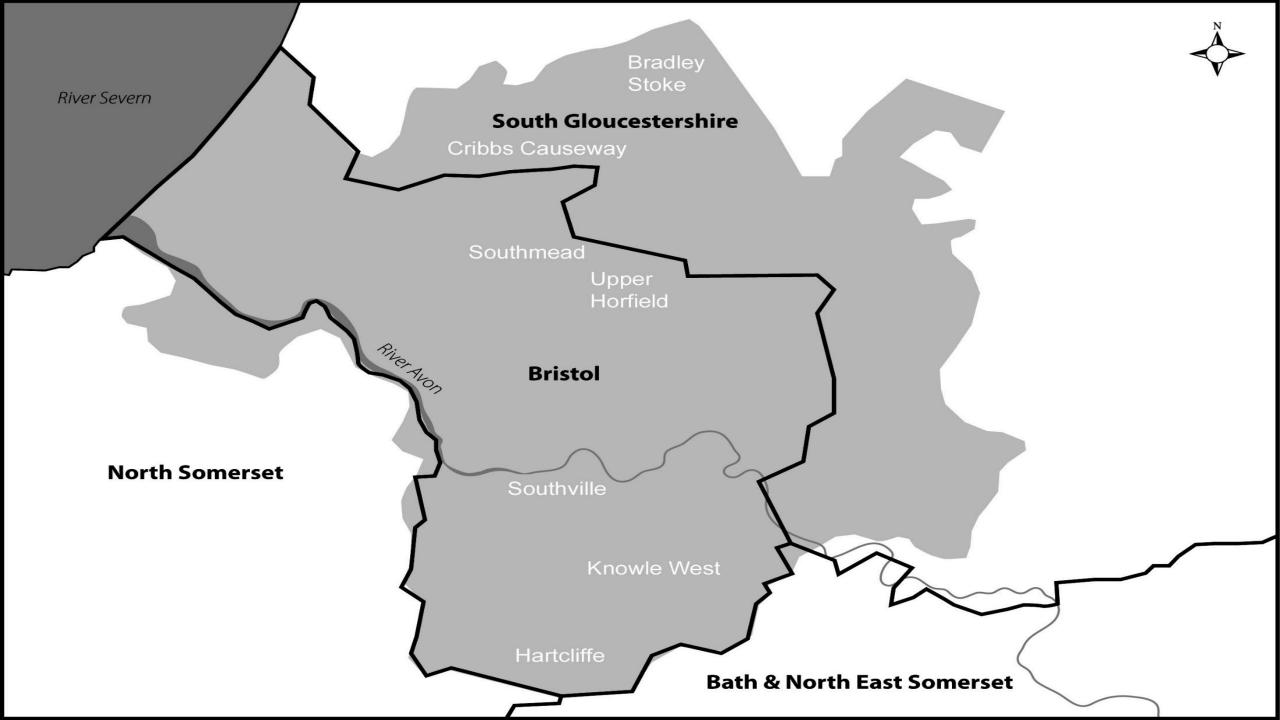
- "The large-scale process of adapting the existing built environment, with varying degrees of direction from the state, is today generally referred to in the UK as urban regeneration" (Jones and Evans, 2013: 2).
- Any significant intervention improving rundown urban areas
- Two key contemporary approaches: property-led and culture/creativity
- Changing places / contemporary urban environments



# City case study: Bristol context

- Important city in pre-industrial period: River Avon
- Middle Ages: trading centre
- 15th century trade links; voyages of discovery
- 17th/18th centuries well-placed to exploit trade with Africa and America; centre of slave trade
- 2nd biggest city/docks in UK
- Merchant city rather than manufacturing city
- Continued to be relatively prosperous
- City population 483,000 (2024); city-region 1 million; city centre 23,100; 70,920 students (2023)







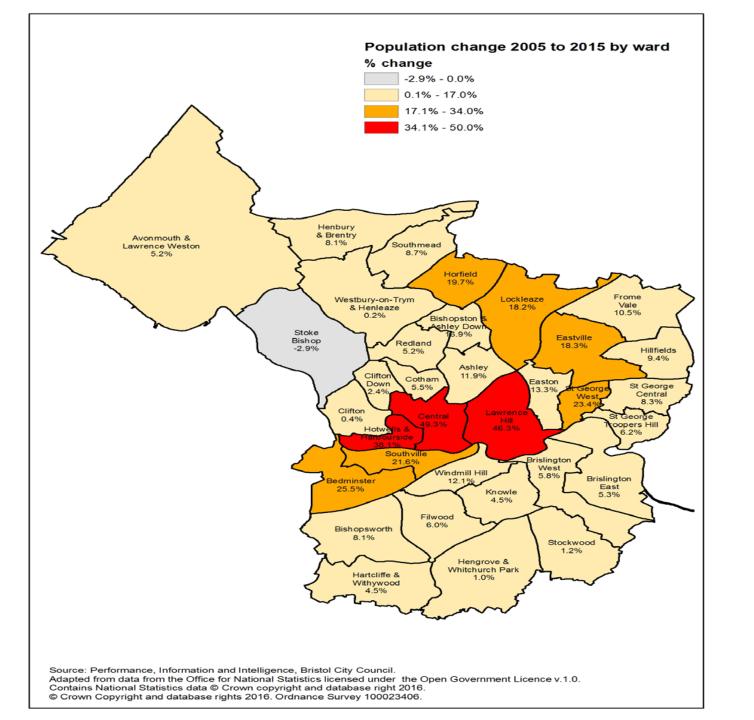
#### **Economy**

- Main industrial sectors
  - Alcohol, tobacco, confectionery
  - Printing and packaging
  - Commercial vehicles
  - Aerospace and defence
- Slight manufacturing downturn 1980s
- Compensated by growth in service industries (financial; cultural/creative sector)
- New specialist sectors: financial services; telecommunications; software computing; robotics and AI
- Older specialism: aerospace manufacturing

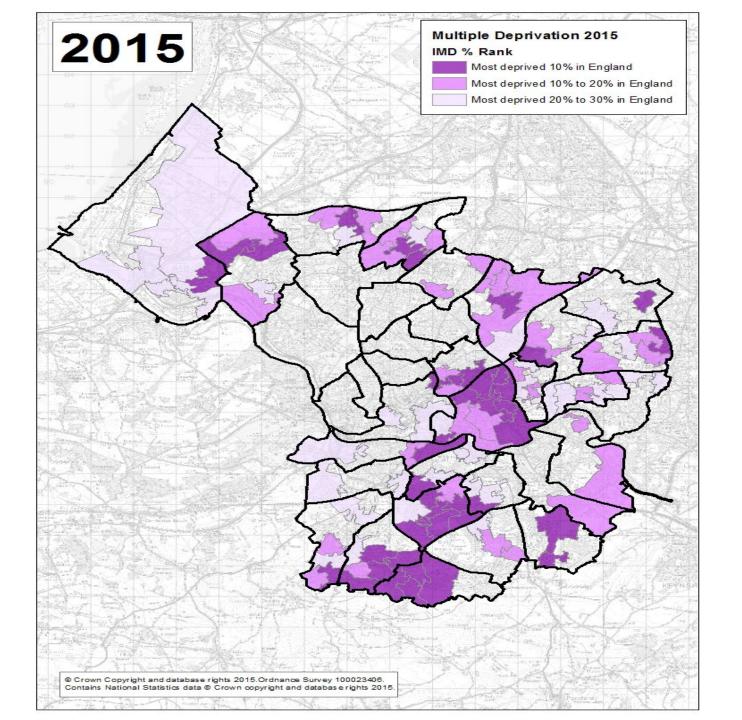


### **Bristol: contemporary context**

- Complacent city; lack of institutional
- Successful, liveable city
- High levels of capitals
- Largest sectors: professional scientific & technical (17%); construction (10%); business administration & support (9%); retail (9%); information & communications (9%)
- But social and economic inequalities
- Response: One City Plan/Inclusive Growth Strategy
- Strong networks/collaboration
- Leadership changes (elected City Mayor 2012-2024)
- Narratives of creative/green/smart city











#### Types of regeneration

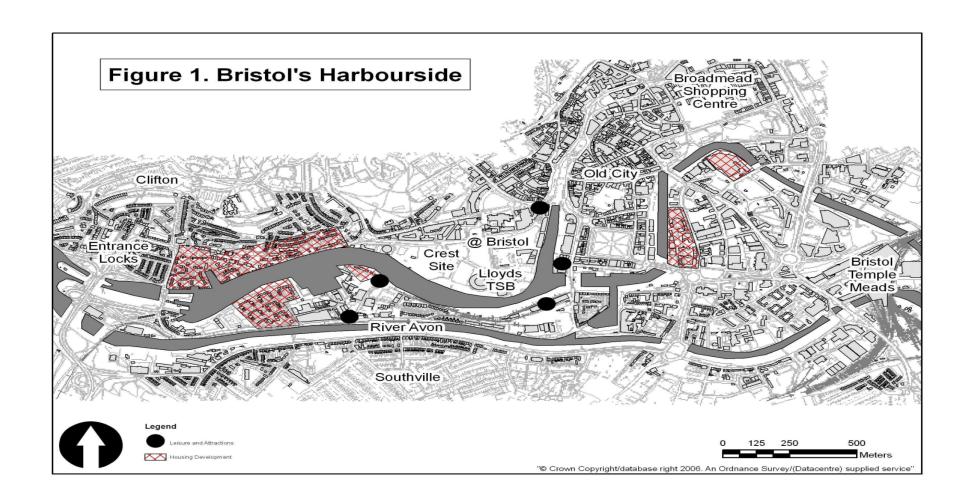
- Housing-led regeneration
- Gentrification
- City centre population growth: 5208 (1991); 8642 (2001) 30% growth 2001-2011; 18,390 (2021)
- Creativity and culture
- Touristification/tourism gentrification
- Retail/High Street regeneration
- Night-time economy
- Sustainable regeneration/green city
- Area-based social regeneration (public services)
- National government policies: UDC, Enterprise Zone



#### New urban spaces

- City centre (urban renaissance since 1990s)
  - Harbourside (e.g. Finzels Reach Wapping Wharf)
  - Temple Quay/Temple Quarter
  - Cabot Circus/Broadmead
- Edge city (move out of town from 1980s)
  - Bradley Stoke
  - Aztec West
  - Cribbs Causeway
  - Brabazon



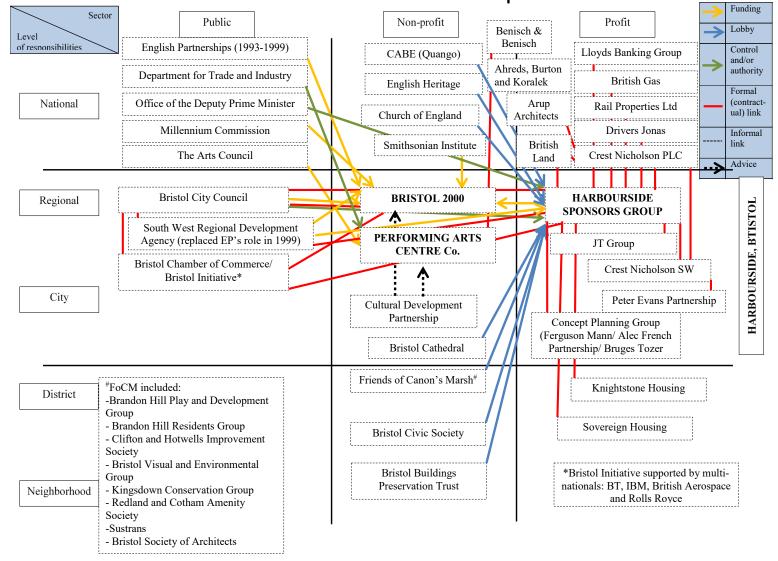




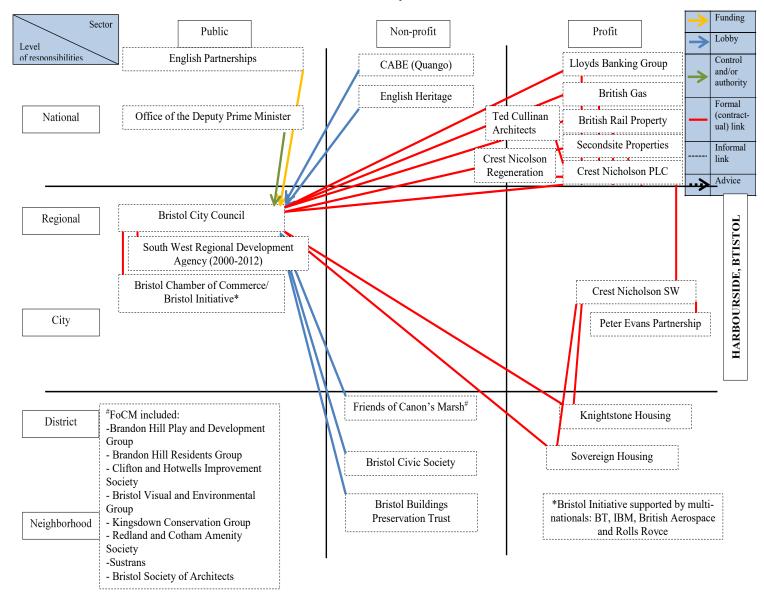


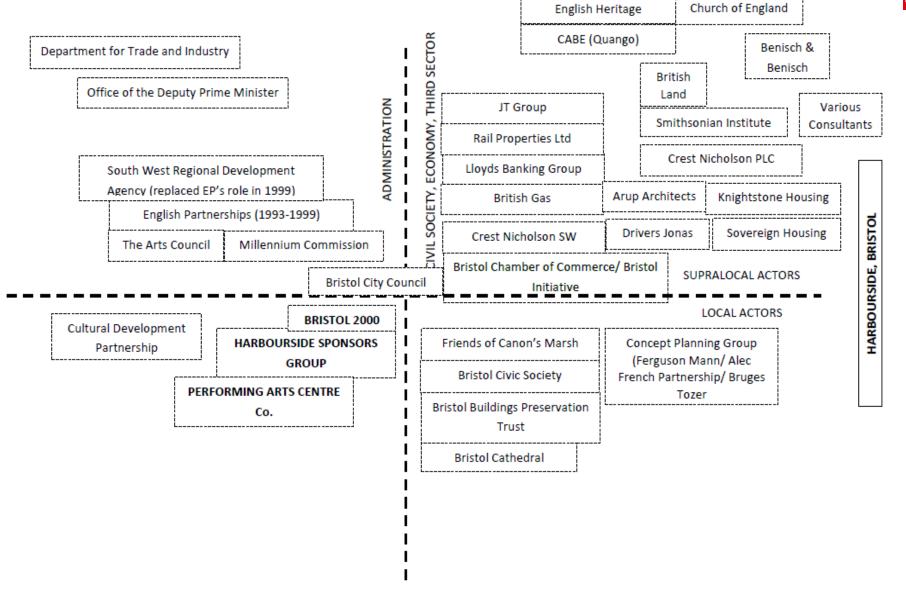


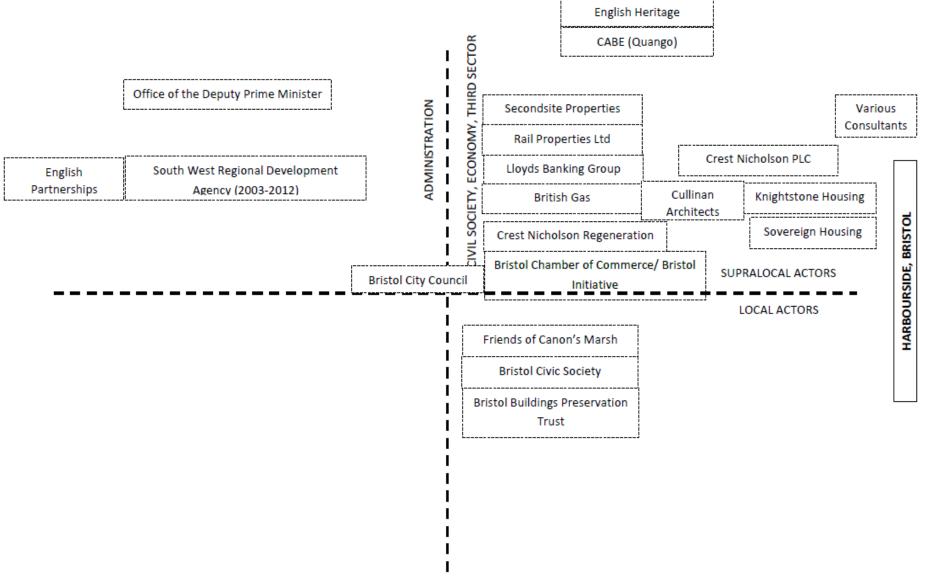
#### Bristol – Institutional Map 1 1993-2001



#### Bristol – Institutional Map 1 2002-2017























### **Bristol: post-austerity**

- Focus on agglomeration economies/key high-end clusters
- Emphasis on meaningful functional space city-region
- Leadership of place essential to best exploit 'capitals'
- Leadership constrained/fragmented
- Bidding for (small) pots of levelling up money compared with past government/regeneration money
- Regeneration in 'favoured places' rather than by need
- Entrepreneurial (with social/environmental dimensions)



#### **Future regeneration in Bristol...**

- Sustainable regeneration
- Mix of uses
- Supply (what) and demand (who)
- Public (government) or private (business) sector
- Public realm, green and blue space
- Housing or commercial
- Industry, offices, retail, leisure, events
- Community benefits



## **Case study: Bristol Temple Quarter**



#### **Temple Quarter Regeneration**

- UK's largest regeneration projects
- 2012- (135 hectares)
- Aims to transform area over 25 years
- 10,000 homes
- Temple Meads/Engine Shed
- Temple Quay (offices, retail, services)
- Arena Island
- UoB Temple Quarter Campus (£500m)
- £94.7m levelling up funding 2022
- Enterprise Zone within Temple Quarter (watered down version of 1980s/1990s EZs); business rate discount up to £275,000 over 5 years, superfast broadband)



