

City-REDI: City Region Economic Development

The University of Birmingham is a leader in developing research, strategy and policy into the development and prosperity of urban areas. The recently established City Region Economic Development Institute (City-REDI) has regional economic growth at the heart of its research.

By undertaking commissioned projects and work that focus on systems, people and the intersection between both, City-REDI provides an innovative, inter-disciplinary and holistic approach that informs regional growth. Working across private, social and public sectors in local and national governments, the Institute is working towards improving productivity.

The devolution agenda in the UK has revitalised the importance of regional and local economies in policy-making. City-REDI is researching issues within this context to find solutions to address real challenges affecting regional economies including: how to maximise the benefits of investments and infrastructure projects; how to tailor workforce skills to the emergent needs of the market; and how to attract fresh talent without disadvantaging the existing workforce.

REGIONAL ECONOMICS ACROSS THE UK CURRENTLY FACE SIGNIFICANT UNCERTAINTY AS NEW BUSINESS MODELS AND TECHNOLOGIES CONTINUE TO TRANSFORM THE CONDITIONS OF PRODUCTION AND THE GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Our expertise

- Systemic economic modelling
- Policy development and evaluation
- Spatial planning
- Public sector leadership
- Social enterprise
- Ethnic minority enterprise
- Inward investment
- High value manufacturing
- Supply chain analysis

Success and impact

- City-REDI works simultaneously in both global and regional contexts, and has been funded by national and international organisations from the public and private sectors in recognition of its pioneering work.
- The Institute has developed longstanding engagements with a number of regional and national organisations in the West Midlands including: Birmingham City Council, the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership, and the Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce. These relationships are testament to the quality and application of the research on businesses and regional economies.
- In partnership with the Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce (GBCC), City REDI is producing the second annual Birmingham Economic Review of the region.
- On the invitation of the West Midlands Mayor, Professor Simon Collinson representing City-REDI has joined the 'West Midlands Funding for Growth Commission'. The Commission will work on the challenges of fiscal devolution to promote economic growth for the region.

Key projects

The economic impacts of Brexit on UK regions, cities and sectors:

Started in April 2017, this project is exploring the changes to global value-chains that need to be made post-Brexit, and how they can be configured in a way that best serves the city and region.

The Urban Living Birmingham project:

This project is part of a wider £400,000 funding stream created by seven UK Research Councils and Innovate UK. The University of Birmingham is informing the development of the city of Birmingham as a regional asset and a global beacon for urban innovation through the bringing together of governing bodies and businesses to expand on their existing assets and maximise future potential.



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Getting in touch

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'THIS REPORT, POWERED BY THE WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH OF THE CITY-REDI TEAM, WILL PROVIDE A VALUABLE RESOURCE TO DECISION MAKERS IN BUSINESS AND POLITICAL AND POLICY SPHERES ALIKE.'
PAUL FAULKNER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE GREATER BIRMINGHAM CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

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