

Mega-events and the spatial (re)distribution of tourism:

Implications for 2012



Dr. Andrew Smith ... University of Westminster

My presentation



- Past experiences of national dissemination
- Current (English) regional 2012 strategies

Conceptual framework

- Incidental effects
- Partial dislocation
- Event leverage







• 'Olympics can have significant spillover effects on surrounding communities if those communities provide amenities that are close substitutes for those found in

the host city' (p.460)



Lillehammer 1994 (Tiegland, 1999)

- Demand heavily concentrated
- Positive effects concentrated in destinations with improved facilities
- Decline in regional periphery
- Growth well below forecasts
- Tourism peaked year before
- Increases in domestic demand
- Traffic from future hosts





Sydney 2000 (Jennings, 2008)



IOC: 'acknowledged that Australia was really the first Olympic host nation to take full advantage of the Games in vigorously pursuing tourism for the benefit of the host country' (Morse, 2001, p.106).

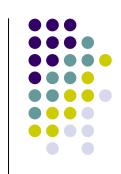
Queensland:

- Visiting media programmes
- Collaboration with ATC/host
- Consistent messages
- Hosting other events
- Avoiding displacement
 - Maintaining existing markets
 - Managing expectations
 - Offering full packages



London 2012

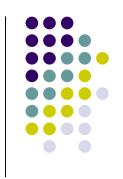
- 'Opportunity to generate £2.1billion in additional tourism benefits for the UK' (DCMS, 2007, p.17).
- 'The main tangible economic legacy' of the Games will be; 'an increase in the number of visitors and their spending' (DCMS, 2007, p. 20).
- Between 50-70% of the net economic benefit of staging the Games measured over a 7-10 year period will accrue through tourism' (Visit Britain 2006, p. 5).
- Blake (2005): three estimates of its likely effects.
 According to Blake's "central case" the most likely outcome is an increase in tourism to the U.K. of 1.5% between 2012 and 2016. However, he also suggests that the effects could range between a reduction of 4% and an increase of 7%.

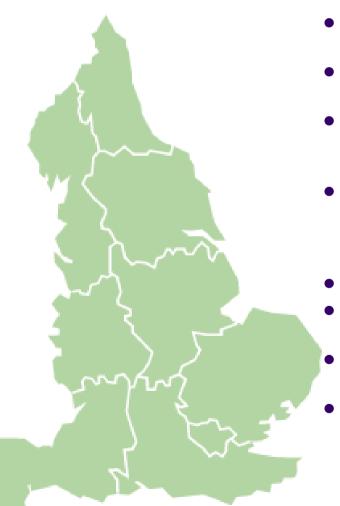




department for culture, media and sport

Regional plans

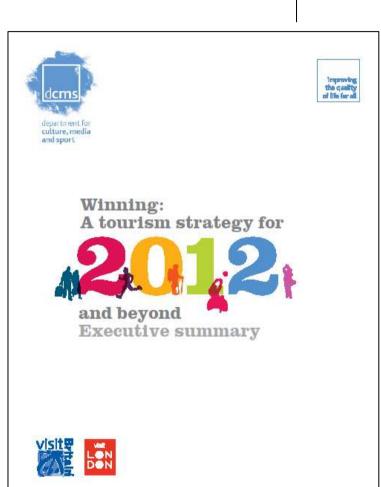




- North East England's Plan for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games
- be inspired: Northwest Legacy Framework for the 2012 Games
- Yorkshire Gold: Yorkshire and Humber's Strategy for Seizing the Opportunities of the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games
- Rising to the Challenge Nations And Regions East: East of England Regional Business Plan for the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games
- Prepare for 2012: Priorities for the West Midlands
- Championing The East Midlands: The East Midlands Strategy for the 2012 Games
- On Your Marks...Get Set...Go! Optimising the 2012 Games Opportunity for the South East
- Team South West: South West England Legacy Strategy For The 2012 Games

Regions: existing objectives

- Stage more events
- Gain more overseas visitors
- Improve service / quality
- Improve skills
- Greater online presence
- Promotion of existing attractions
- Improve welcome
- Maximise stay / spend
- Improve destination management
- New strategy / organisation



Initiatives planned by English regions to lever tourism benefits from the 2012 Games

	Themed promotions	Utilise local 2012 venues	Role as training camps	Cultural Olympiad	2012 access point + connectivity	Highlight other events	Paralympics disability access	Base for spectators	Promote sports / activity tourism	Capitalise on displacement	Attract extenders	Provide bespoke packages	New conference / hotel capacity	Representation within Olympic Park	Olympic torch	Managing Expectations	
NW		√	√	√	✓	✓						√					6
NE	√	√	√						√	√							5
York			√			✓		✓									3
East	√	√							√				√				4
EMid	√			√				√			√			√			5
WMid	√	√	√		√	✓	√										6
SE	√	√		√	√		√	√							√		7
SW				√	✓		✓			√						√	5
Total	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	





- Blake, A. (2005) The Economic Impact of the London 2012 Olympics.
 TTRI Discussion Paper
- DCMS (2007) Winning A Tourism Strategy for 2012 and Beyond
- Ferreira, R. (1998) The location effect. How some clubs won the Olympic Ring. Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration Quarterly, October, 1998, pp. 50-58
- Leeds, M. (2008) Do good Olympics make good neighbours?
 Contemporary Economic Policy, 26(3), pp.460-467
- Jennings, J. (2008) The Sydney Olympic Games Experience Lessons from Queensland. Tourism Insights January 2008
- Tiegland, J. (1999) Mega-events and impacts on tourism; the predictions and realities of the Lillehammer Olympics Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal, 17(4), pp.305–317
- Visit Britain (2006) Our Journey towards London 2012 has begun: Tourism opportunities and objectives for London 2012