Development of the East of England: How can we avoid throttling the goose?

Centre for Mathematical Sciences
Wilberforce Road
Cambridge
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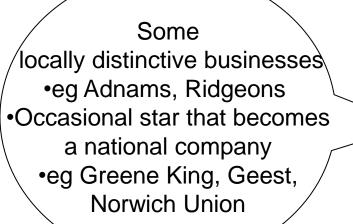


Outline

The different layers of regional economies

How the East of England may grow





•~20,000 <250 employee
companies in Eastern Region
•Part of national economy

No particular location reason

•Many of them services•Usually lowish value added•Many lifestyle businesses

•Small businesses
•Privately owned/managed
•Local factors of production
•Approx 100,000 >10
employees in Eastern
Region

Geographic markets limited
 Local town and district
 Little replicability - local niche

Local firms



Only 60 PLCs in Eastern Region
 Usually functional units of national groups
 eg shops, sales and service offices
 Number of national service units in Eastern Region
 unknown

Also important production units
eg Marsh in Norwich
Large investments with big impacts on local economic factors
eg labour, space, infrastructure

National company units

Location reflects, rather than
creates, regional factors and capabilities
eg motorways, labour, local markets,
Cost and return driven

•Eventually mobile eg financial services

Little local intelligence
 Tactical responses to national orders/marketing strategies
 Limited local sourcing





Multinational operating units

Similar to national units
 Part of international marketing
 or production plan
 Little local intelligence

Location reflects local factors eg labour, space
 Grant sensitive
 Only 1400 multinational plants in Eastern Region
 Mostly in A1/M1/M25 corridor

Can have very big impacts on regional economic factors
eg Ford at Brentwood, GM at
Luton, GSK at Stevenage
Cost and return driven
Eventually mobile



- •Started, managed and usually owned within region
- •Produce primarily intermediate goods/services of a specialist nature
 - Approx 3,000 in Eastern Region

- Operate and initially sell within region, usually to other companies in same or adjacent sectors
- •Can internationalise sales quickly, but again in specialised industrial sectors
 - Customers are frequently national
 or multinational companies

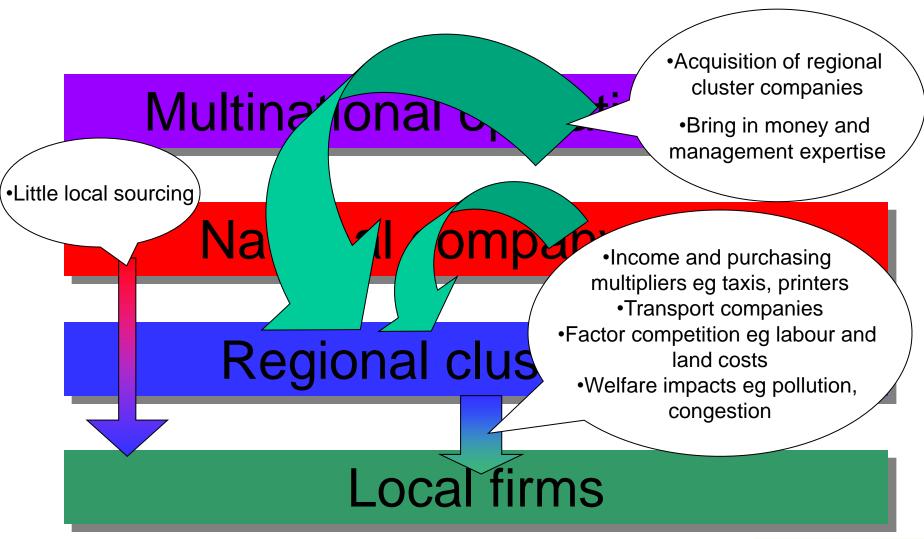
Regional cluster firms

•Usually co-locate/cluster around a source of supply, but sometimes of demand

- West Yorks wool: supply of water and coal
- City of London: port and Govt borrowing
- •Hull caravans: ship repair skills and static caravan parks demand
- Yarmouth oil and gas: North Sea rigs demand
 - •Cambridge Phenomenon:supply of university research

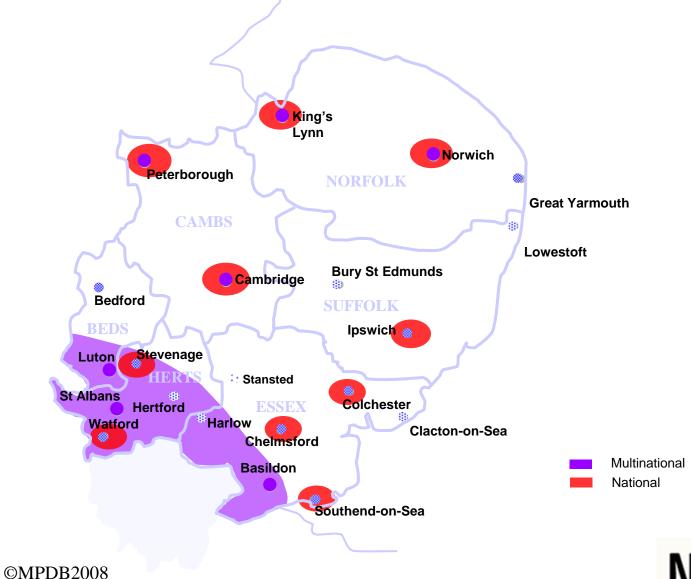


How do these layers interact?



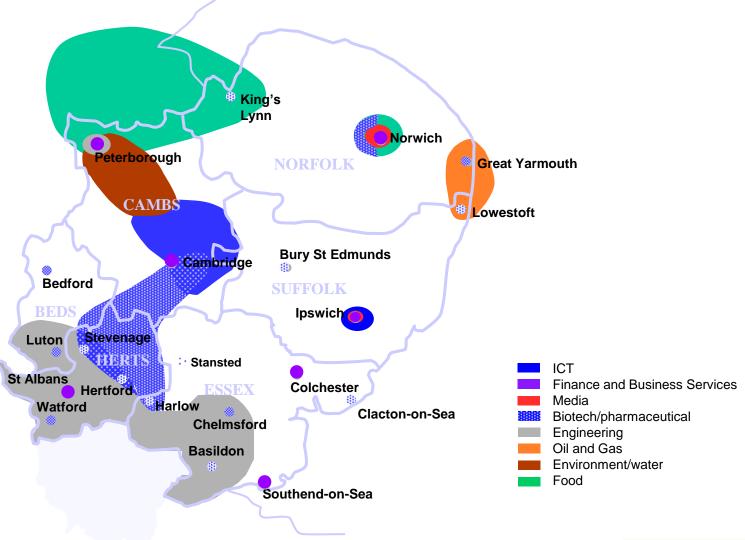


Eastern Region - National and Multinational Layers





Eastern Region - Regional Clusters





Eastern Region Clusters - 5 years time?

