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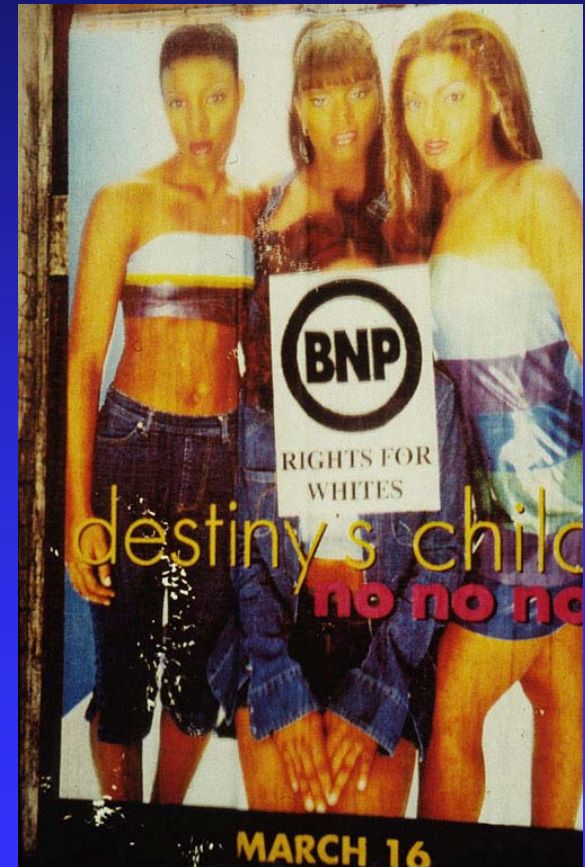
# The World in our Neighbourhoods

Neighbourhood Governance: government, community  
cohesion and integration

Michael Keith,  
CUCR, Goldsmiths College, University of London

# Diversity and neighbourhood governance: Constitutive tensions

- Precedent and experience
- Participatory and representative democracy; mercantilism of power
- Geographical models of participation
- Recognition and rights; cultural specificity and universal provision
- Faith and enlightenment; local and global



# Governance Reform: Negotiables and non negotiables

## ■ Negotiable

- ◆ Localisation, local plans
- ◆ Personalisation
- ◆ Commissioning and contracting

## ■ Non negotiable

- ◆ Outcome focus
- ◆ Framework

# Social context

- The dynamic city; dwelling and living, being and becoming
- Social context of East End
- Community led models of regeneration (and integrity)
- Third sector strategy (and contracts, autonomy)
- Barking fascism and ethnic competition
- The world comes together in South London
- Diversity, cohesion and the welfare state

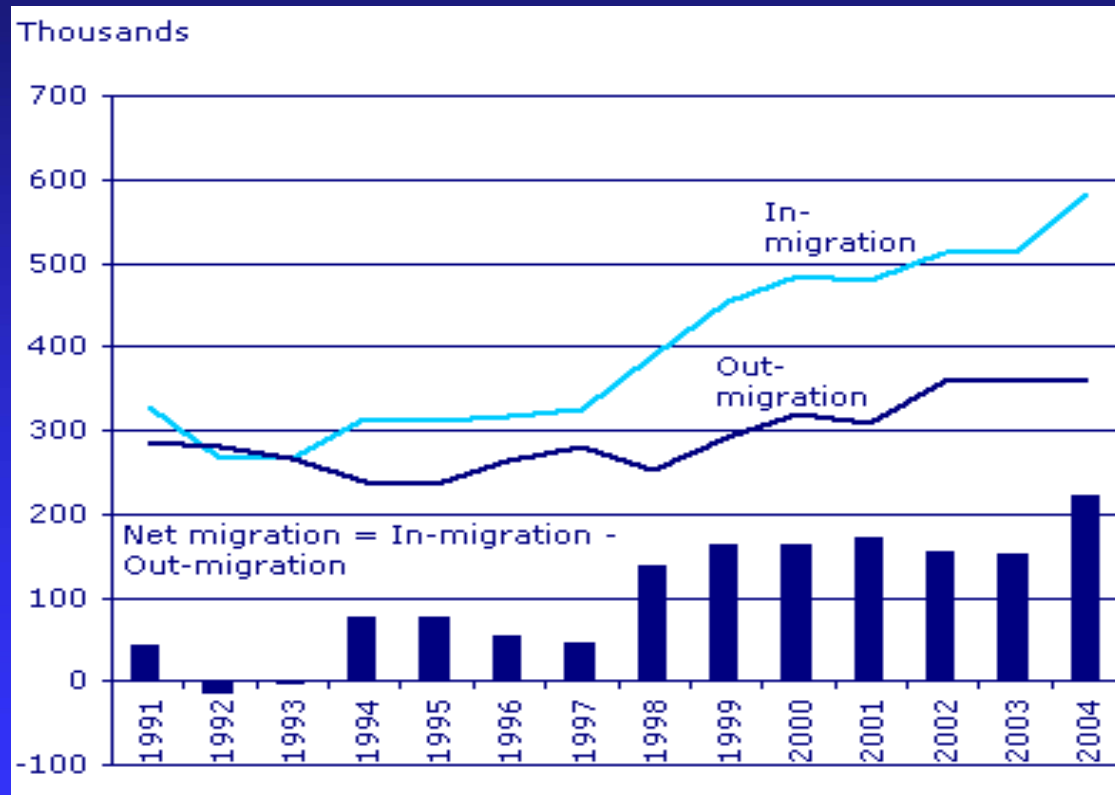


# Capacity building and partnership

- Alternative models of service provision; eg ISAP
- Innovative models; eg the graffiti project
- Knowledge in the community; eg social enterprise; Bromley by Bow
- Community 'right to buy'; eg community assets and golden trapdoor
- Local Area Plans (and their limits)
- Making it local, making it personal

# Migration to the UK has been increasing

■



■ Total International Migration (TIM) to/from the UK 1991-2004

source ONS website

# Axioms of our times?

## “Parallel lives” and the UK “sleepwalking into segregation”?

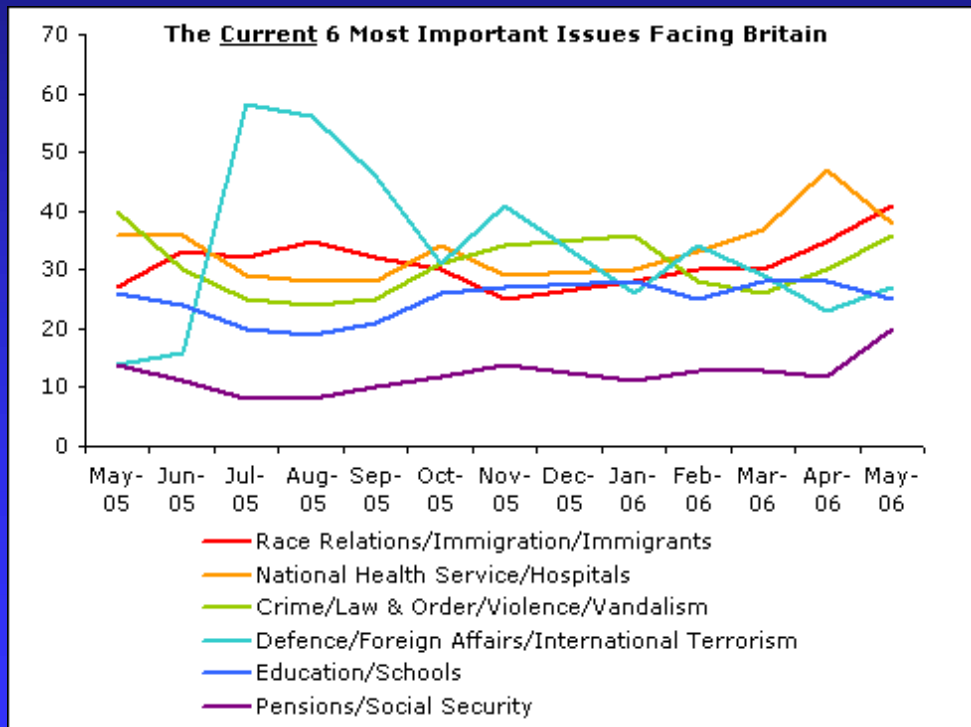
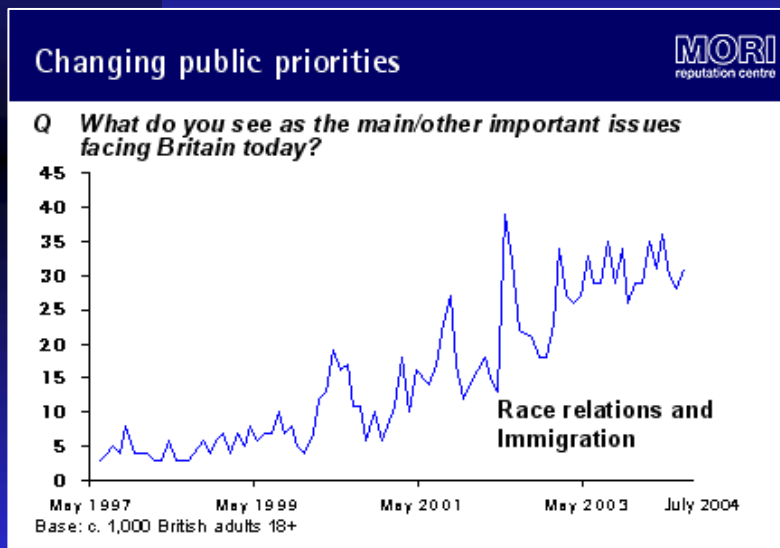
- Ted Cantle “Whilst the physical segregation of housing estates and inner city areas came as no surprise, the team was particularly struck by the depth of polarisation of our towns and cities. The extent to which these physical divisions were compounded by so many other aspects of our daily lives, was very evident. Separate educational arrangements, community and voluntary bodies, employment, places of worship, language, social and cultural networks, means that many communities operate on the basis of a series of **parallel lives**. These lives often do not seem to touch at any point, let alone overlap and promote any meaningful interchanges. There is little wonder that the ignorance about each others’ communities can easily grow into fear; especially where this is exploited by extremist groups determined to undermine community harmony and foster divisions.”  
*Source: Building Cohesive Communities (Home Office 2001)*
- Trevor Phillips: “We are a society which, almost without noticing it, is becoming more divided by race and religion. ...If we allow this to continue, we could end up .... living in a New Orleans-style Britain of passively co-existing ethnic and religious communities, eyeing each other uneasily over the fences of our differences.... we are **sleepwalking our way to segregation**. We are becoming strangers to each other, and we are leaving communities to be marooned outside the mainstream.”  
*Source speech of 22/09/05 from CRE website*

# Community Cohesion was jointly defined in 2002 in terms of positive outcomes

- “The broad working definition is that a cohesive community is one where:
  - ◆ There is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities
  - ◆ The diversity of people’s backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued
  - ◆ Those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities and
  - ◆ Strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods.”
- *Source: Guidance on Community cohesion (Produced by the LGA in conjunction with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Home Office, Commission for Racial Equality and the Inter Faith Network, LGA 2002)*

- This may be why the public are very concerned about “Race relations / immigration / immigrants” - for many it is the top issue currently facing Britain

- MORI poll May 2006 – “race relations/immigration/immigrants” was the most commonly named main issue facing Britain today, named by 19% of people. As the graph below shows concern has been rising since 1997 – and **this was the first time it had overtaken crime**



# The Commission on Integration and Cohesion

- Ruth Kelly launched the Commission on Integration and Cohesion on 24<sup>th</sup> August, alongside the appointment of the Chair, Darra Singh and 13 further Commissioners.
- The Commission is a fixed term independent body that will report back to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in June 2007.
- The Commission will cover England only, but will consider issues which affect Scotland and Wales, and good practice from other countries.
- The Commission will undertake its work within the context of existing Government policy.

# The terms of reference

- The Commission has been tasked with:
  - ◆ Examining the issues that raise tensions between different groups in different areas, and that lead to segregation and conflict;
  - ◆ Suggesting how local community and political leadership can push further against perceived barriers to cohesion and integration;
  - ◆ Looking at how local communities themselves can be empowered to tackle extremist ideologies;
  - ◆ Developing approaches that build local areas' own capacity to prevent problems, and ensure they have the structures in place to recover from periods of tension

# Commission Report

- The Commission's report will be published in June 2007 and will:
  - ◆ Identify local good practice and recommend it for wider use
  - ◆ Offer practical recommendations to central and local government to promote integration and cohesion

# Citizenship Survey 2005 and LBTH Annual Residents Survey

- The 2005 Citizenship Survey found that
  - **80% of people felt that they lived in an area where people of different backgrounds got on well together.**
  - **83% of people who said that they lived in areas containing people from different ethnic groups felt that in their area people respected ethnic differences, which was a statistically significant rise from 79 per cent in 2003.**
  - 50% had friends from different ethnic groups to themselves.
  - 49% felt that many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted, a small but statistically significant change from 47% in 2003
  - **32% of people felt very strongly that they belonged to their neighbourhood, a statistically significant increase from 28% in 2003.**
- The 2005 LBTH Survey found that
  - 73% of people felt that they lived in an area where people of different backgrounds got on well together.
  - 82% of people who said that they lived in areas containing people from different ethnic groups felt that in their area people respected ethnic differences
  - **82 % of people felt very strongly that they belonged to their neighbourhood**

# The new local government White Paper sets out eight guiding principle for local governance and cohesion

- Strong leadership and engagement
- Developing shared values
- Preventing the problems of tomorrow
- Good information
- Visible work to tackle inequalities
- Involving young people
- Interfaith work
- Partners (including third sector)

## The White Paper also proposes to empower local citizens and neighbourhoods by ...

- Encouraging the expansion of neighbourhood management
- Encouraging the local community to take on the management of local assets
- Simplifying the scope of tenant management
- Encouraging the use of local charters
- Encouraging local authorities to deal with petitions systematically
- (providing a new power of wellbeing for Quality parish Councils)

# Encouraging the expansion of neighbourhood management

- Imaginary geographies
- Economies of scale
- The opportunities of participation; ‘bridging by doing’

# Encouraging the local community to take on the management of local assets

- Chicksand Citizens Forum
- Pepys SRB
- Third Sector Strategy

# Simplifying the scope of tenant management

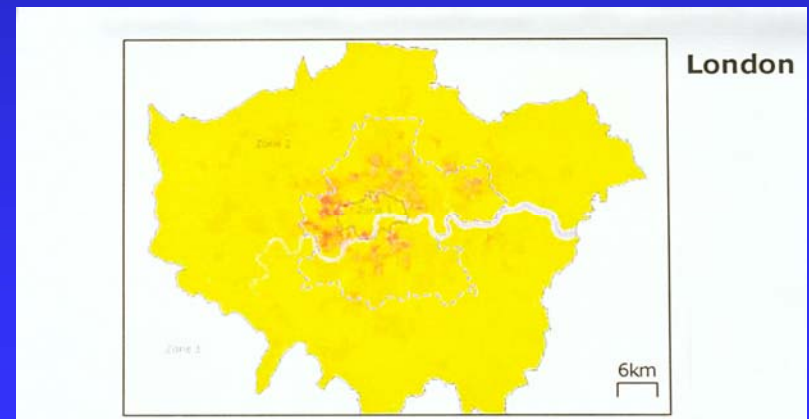
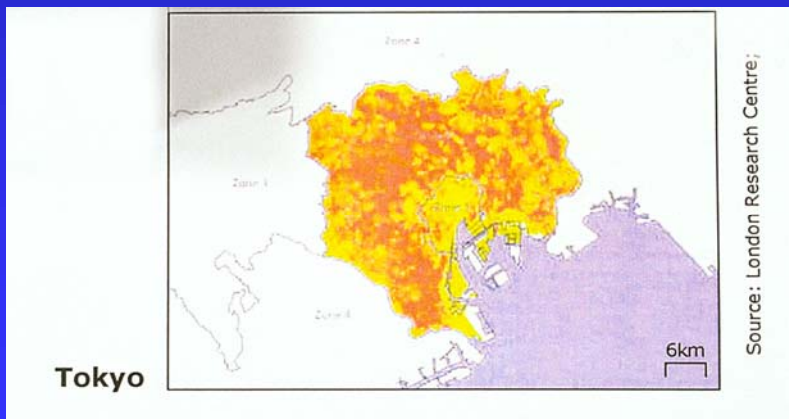
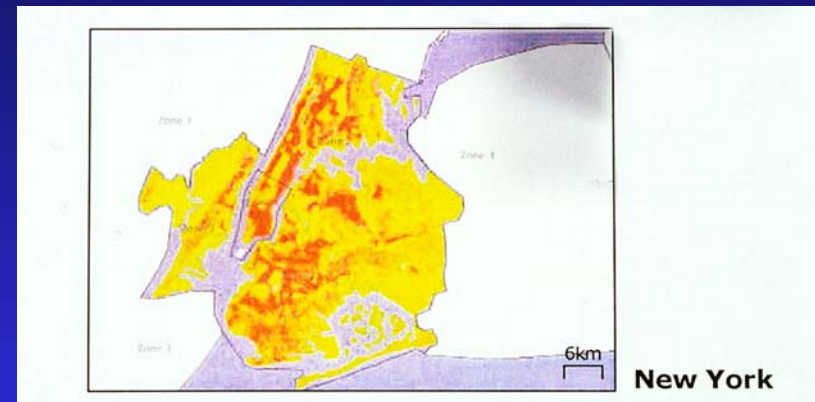
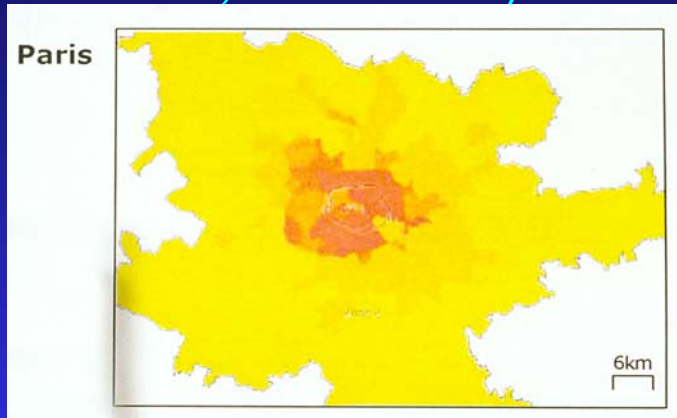
- Community Land Trusts
- Stock Transfers and HARCA
- Deliberation, lettings and cohesion

# Responsive governance

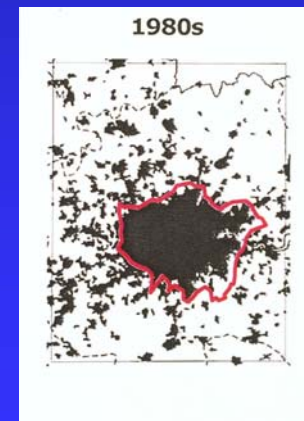
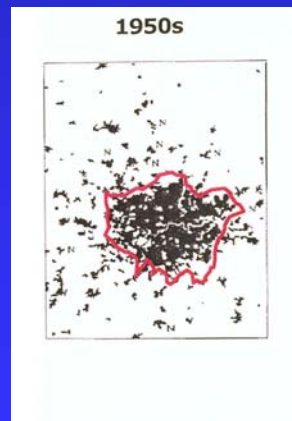
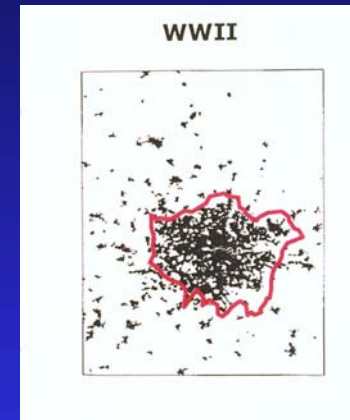
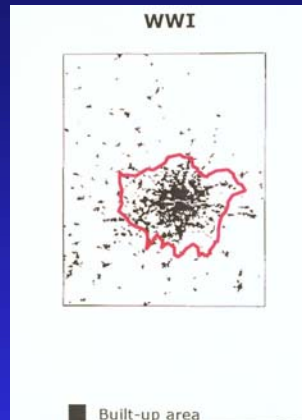
- Encouraging the use of local charters
- Encouraging local authorities to deal with petitions systematically

BUT ..... City problems,  
strategic decisions the  
neighbourhood....

# Strategically; in whose image is the diverse city to be (re)made; Barker, homes, density



# Strategically; where does London end?



# Conclusion: From Pangloss to Beckett?

- Mediating tensions
- Outcome focus
- Reflexive change

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