

A globally networked city: Positioning Birmingham and the West Midlands Internationally

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RE-SETTING, RE-PURPOSING AND RE- VISIONING: WEST MIDLANDS EUROPE HUB



Re-setting, re-purposing and re-visioning Birmingham and the West Midlands in Europe.

- Long and established presence in Brussels.

Birmingham was the first European city to set up an office in Brussels back in 1986. Over the past several decades we have helped our partners to shape policy, develop an international reputation and have supported our partners to secure hundreds of millions of Euros in European funding.

- Recognising the value of working multilaterally and bilaterally

Birmingham has long recognised the value of working closely with our European and International counterparts, being one of the founding members of Eurocities in 1986. We have invested decades into building close relationships with cities across the globe, from Leipzig to Lyon, Frankfurt to Milan, and Chicago to Johannesburg.

- Innovating with European and international partners

Birmingham is as committed as ever to our trusted European partners and dedicated to working closely on areas of mutual interest and seeks city-to-city collaboration in order to lay the groundwork for practical areas of cooperation and secure common ground around common aims, specifically in the context of three objectives:

- A green and just economic recovery
- Achieving net zero and implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Shared values such as openness, cohesion, equality, and diversity

Re-setting, re-purposing and re-visioning: The Birmingham Alliance

The shared ambitions of the Birmingham Alliance are:

- **International Business, Trade and Investment** – Enhance city to city cooperation and establish new trade and investment link.
- **Research and Innovation** – Participate in knowledge exchange and promote Birmingham's R&I capability and secure partnerships and funding
- **International partnerships and networks** – Maintain and build partnerships and engage actively in European and international networks



Re-setting, re-purposing and re-visioning: Why Brussels?

- Platform to the rest of the world - Small world city
- International hub - One of only two places in the world that such a deep ecosystem of various interest organisations in one place (other than Washington)
- Institutional (parliament, European commission, committee of the regions), member state, regional.
- A range of business, trade and sector organisations and networks (British chambers of commerce).
- 3rd country missions/commonwealth connection (Australia, Canada etc.)



COLLABORATING DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY





Partnerships

EUROCITIES

- Eurocities is the network of more than 200 cities in 38 countries, representing 130 million people.
- Eurocities strives for a Europe where cities are genuine partners with the EU to create a better future where:
 - People take part in an inclusive society
 - People progress in a prosperous local economy
 - People move and live in a healthy environment
 - People make vibrant and open public spaces
 - City governments address global challenges
 - City governments are fit for the future



ERRIN

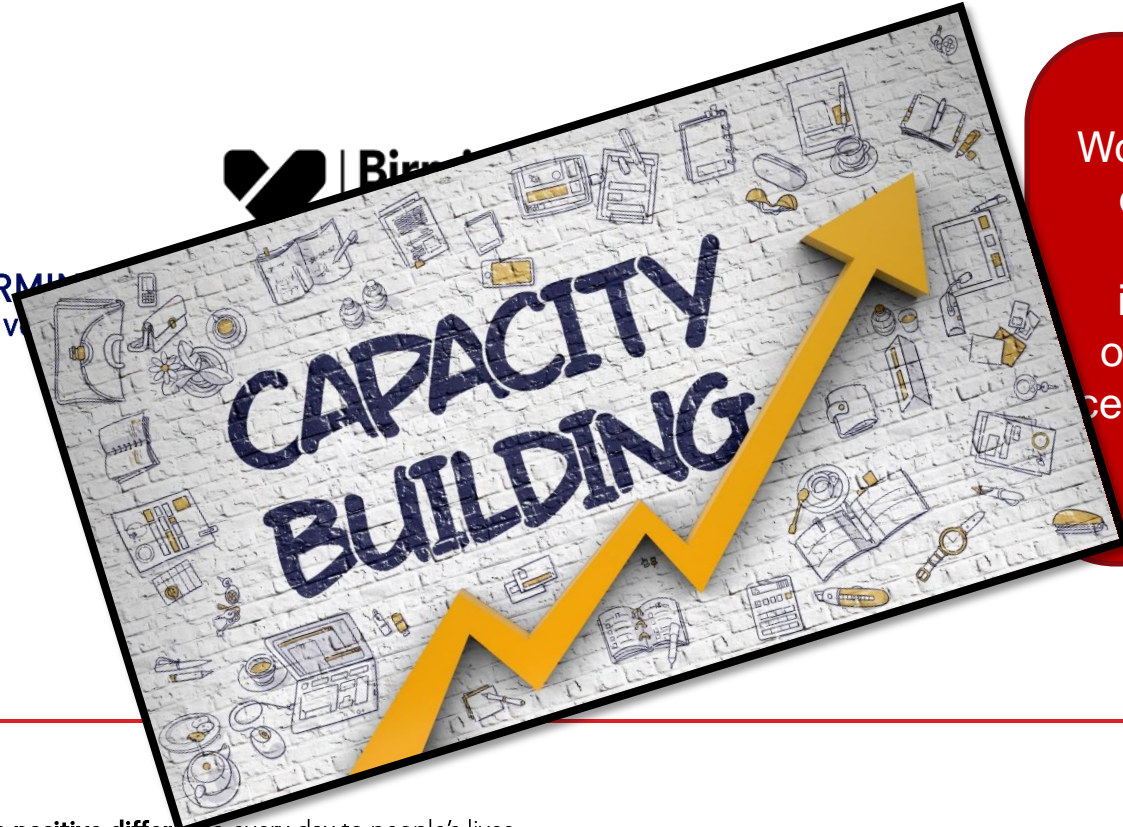
- Brussels-based network of regions focusing on research and innovation policy and programmes
- 125 regions and 20+ countries participate
- Support regions to help develop their innovation ecosystems and to enhance their research and innovation capacities



CITIES



People



Working hand-in-hand with domestic stakeholders including business interests, public sector organisation, technology centres, research institutes etc.



Profile



Making a positive difference every day to people's lives

Positioning



Policy



HORIZON EUROPE



Horizon Europe



UK – EU negotiations

- On the 24th December the European Commission (EC) and the United Kingdom agreed the terms of the UK's future cooperation with the European Union – The Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA).
 - Horizon Europe
 - Euratom Research and Training
 - ITER
 - Copernicus
 - Other EU satellite and monitoring services
 - Peace Plus programme from January 2021Support regions to help develop their innovation ecosystems and to enhance their research and innovation capacities
- UKG chose not to associate to Erasmus+



Association to horizon Europe

EU have ratified Horizon Europe regulations



UK and EU to finalise Protocol I



UK formally associated to the programme



- The UK will be treated as if it were a member state.
- Can coordinate bids.
- No restrictions placed on partner organisations in consortia. (3 MS/associated countries BUT at least one MS)
- **However...** Some aspects of the programme may fall under '*union strategic assets, interests, autonomy or security*'



THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

ANY QUESTIONS?

