



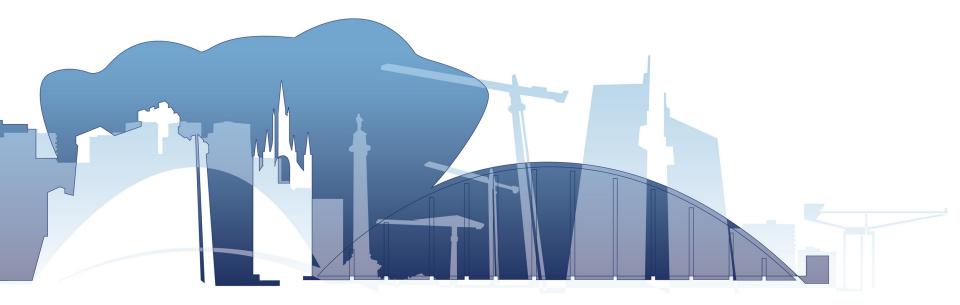
Local responses to economic shocks and planning for economic recovery

CURDS and HMT Housing, Planning and Cities team Seminar, June 2021

Andy Pike

Henry Daysh Professor of Regional Development Studies

andy.pike@ncl.ac.uk





Policy briefing



Local responses to economic shocks

Source: https://whatworksgrowth.org/resources/local-responses-to-economic-shocks/

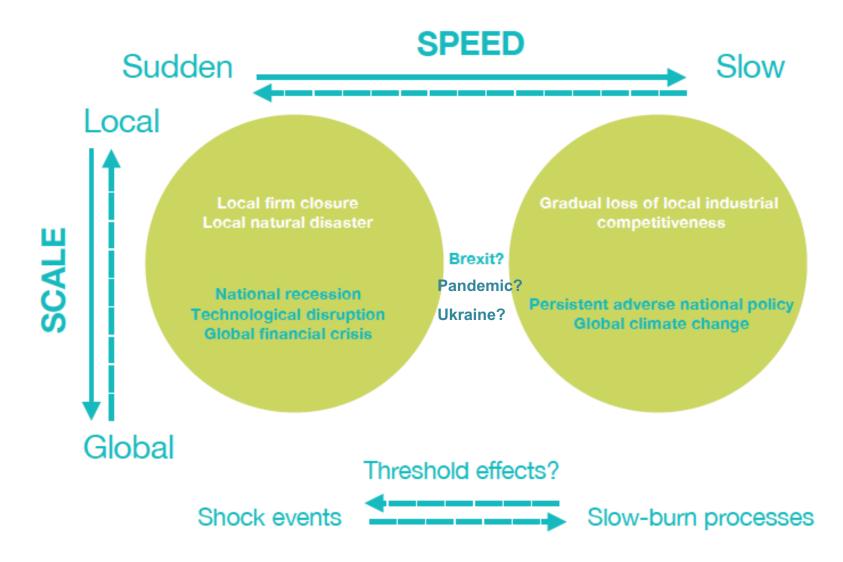


Outline

- What is an economic shock?
- Short, medium and long-term responses
- The 'Task Force' model
- Key issues

What is an economic shock?





Source: Adapted from Martin, R. (2017) The Resilience of Cities to Economic Shocks, Presentation Slides.

Short, medium and long-term responses

Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term
Local economy: assess immediate/likely impacts	Local economy: new FDI, support for expansion of growing sectors	Local economy: re-assess ED strategy with focus on economic adaptation and
Business: refinancing, new	0 0	identification of new growth
owners, receivership	Business: refinancing, new owners, exiting receivership	pathways, monitoring and evaluation of responses and
Employees and labour		local business dynamics
markets: redeployment,	Employees and labour	
redundancy pay,	markets: counselling and	Business: diversification,
employment and financial	psychological support,	innovation support, tax
information and guidance,	education and (re)training,	breaks
job shops, outplacement, self-employment advice,	self-employment and entrepreneurship support	Employees and labour
subsistence allowances	entrepreneursnip support	markets: education and
	Equipment, facilities and	(re)training,
Equipment, facilities and	sites: sale, re-uses,	entrepreneurship and
sites: sale, re-use,	changes of use	enterprise support
mothballing	Supply chains:	Equipment, facilities and
Supply chains: capacity	diversification	sites: sale, re-uses,
and employment retention		changes of use
and employment retention		ondriges of use



The 'Task Force model'

- Multi-agent selected membership
- Strategic, co-ordination and/or implementation roles
- Temporary, task-limited lifespan
- Non-statutory
- Employer, sectoral and/or territorial
- Flexible, 'rapid response'



Potential benefits

- Responsive and regenerative
- Focus, co-operation and co-ordination mechanism
- Adaptable to local context
- Innovative
- Multiple, hybrid varieties and evolution
- Transition to proactive and developmental



Potential costs

- Reactive over-use and proliferation
- Contingent establishment criteria: shock, crisis, slowburn...?
- Fragmented and limited (new) funding
- Public sector reliance
- Lacking accountability and transparency
- Limited evaluation



Key issues for local responses to economic shocks I

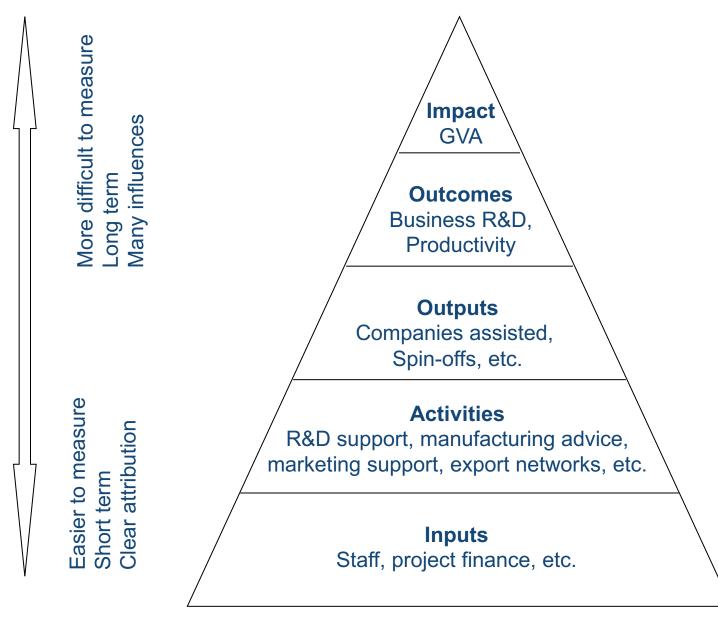
- Emergence of new types of shocks (pandemic, Brexit, Ukraine): sudden *and* slow, stop/start, local to global
- Highly uneven evidence base
- What would have happened without these (underevaluated) interventions?



Key issues for local responses to economic shocks II

- National and local political-economic imperatives: no strong evidence = no policy response?
- Tension: shorter-term, direct and narrow outcomes versus longer-term, indirect and wider outcomes
- Locally tailored policy to shape adaptive pathways slowing down > speeding-up for adaptation

Measuring the difference: from inputs to impact



Source: Adapted from Neil MacCallum, Office of Project Advice and Training, London, UK; OECD LEED Evaluation Workshop, Trento, 2006.