City regions

UK ESPON 24 September 2012,
Cliff Hague, UK ECP
Scottish Experience

1975 2-tier system of Regional and District councils.

Strathclyde 2.4M.

Structure & Local Plans.
1996 reform

32 single tier authorities.

Main change was in city regions.

Joint structure plans.
Pointed to importance of city regions.
No demand for another tier of government.
Response – extra funds.

2009 NPF 2 – much stonger.
The city region approach recognises that our cities are the hubs of wider regional economies and that the complementary assets of their surrounding towns and rural areas offer opportunities for a wide range of economic, cultural and recreational activities.

It also provides the opportunity to develop extensive green networks connecting our inner urban areas with their surrounding rural environments, providing a wide range of social, health and environmental benefits. (p.20)
NPF 2 Strategy
City Development Plans for city regions of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen. Replace Structure Plans. Clear vision & spatial strategy. 32% of land area: 75% popn.
Strategic Development Planning Authorities, acting on behalf of constituent councils.

Local councils prepare Local Development Plans (replacing Local Plans) consistent with SDP.

Elsewhere just a single tier Local Development Plan.

Ministerial approval.
Tayplan – multi-scalar thinking
City regions – ESPON perspective

Agglomeration economies.

Urban-rural relations.

Functional regions.

Integration and multi-level governance.