



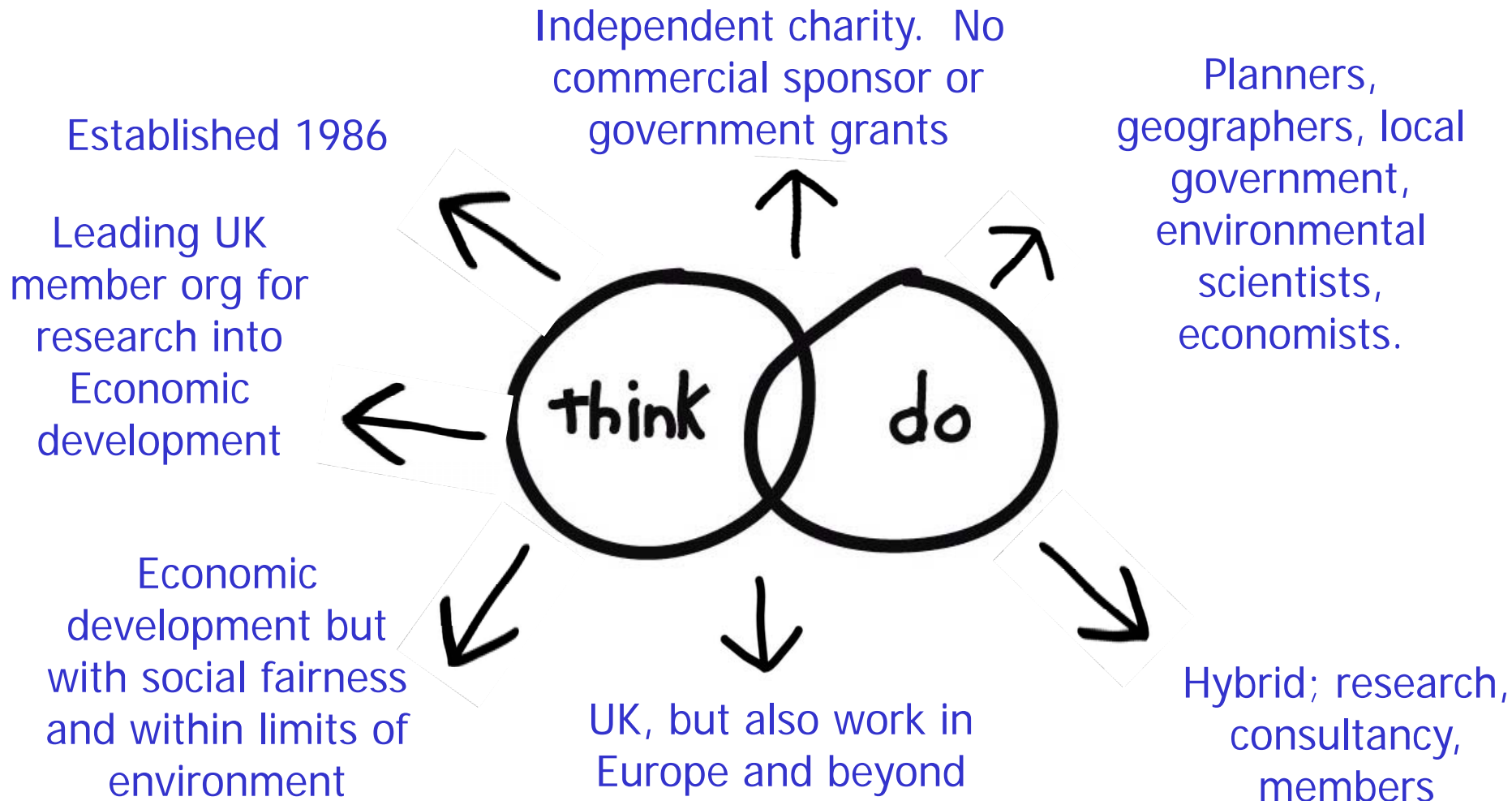
# **LEPs: Assessing your economy as a platform for jobs and growth**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011**

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# About CLES





# About this network

- **Follow on from previous CLEES networks:**
  - Performance networks for local economic development
  - Local Economic Assessment
- **Development of Enterprise Partnerships Forum bringing together:**
  - CLEES
  - IPPR North
  - NLGN



# About today

## **Overarching aim: to explore the role of evidence in the development of LEPs**

- LEPs to date – a perspective from Government
- The role of evidence in 2 LEP case studies
  - Merseyside
  - Cheshire and Warrington
- Tools and methods of evidence gathering for the LEP
  - Using Local Economic Assessments
  - Exploring economic multipliers
- LEPs in 2015



# Introduction to LEPs

- Transition from RDAs – LEPs
- Strategic leadership, setting out an area's economic priorities
- Rebalancing economy towards private sector
- Private sector's role in Governance – must include upper tier authority and must be chaired by private sector
- Bidding process - 56 bids for LEPs submitted with 28 approvals
- Strong link with RGF (although no automatic advantage)
- Localism - its up to localities to come up with proposals – “localities should lead their own development”



# Introduction to LEPs

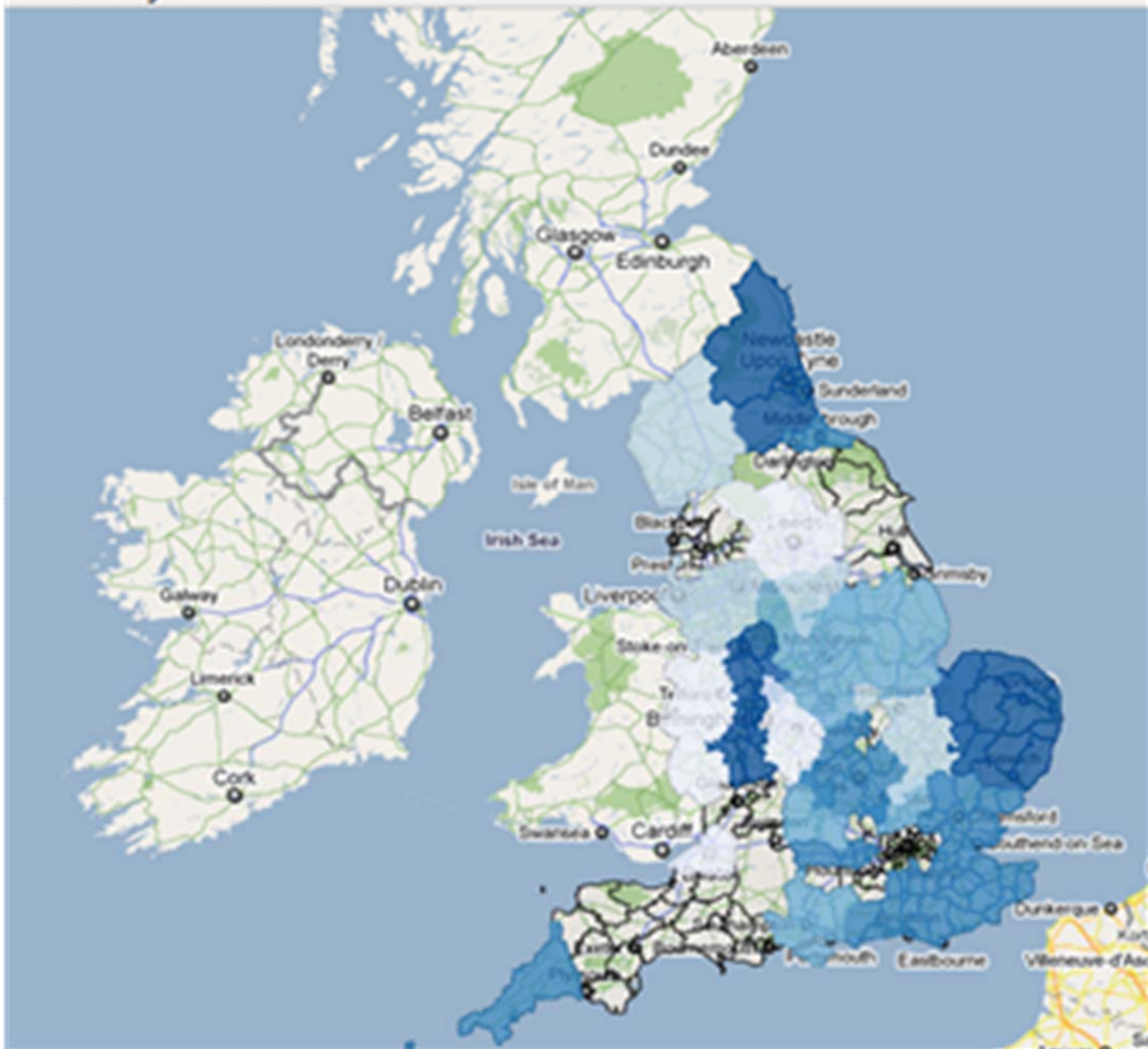
- Question is to what extent will this policy tool provides additionality
- LEPs do have the potential to be an overarching body for joined up working
- LEPs could help close such gaps and ensure that issues facing businesses and individuals across whole are addressed
- Overseeing planning, housing and transport, as well as employment, skills and enterprise support
- Such a body could ensure increased value for money and cost effectiveness



# Introduction to LEPs

- But what about resource – can't do much without sufficient capital
- Geographically uneven across the country – what about places with no LEP?
- At present the approach to LEPs appears disorganised and slightly chaotic
- Has to be clarity about their blue-print or businesses won't engage

January 2011







# Why is evidence important?

- Data is just the starting point – good policy requires intelligence
- Recognises the links between economics and other aspects of place
- Provides a strategic understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of place
- Provides an understanding of the relationships within place
- Enables need to be identified and associated interventions developed



# Finishing off

## Further thoughts:

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