The architecture of cultural policy and planning in the UK

Colin Mercer
Cultural Capital Ltd

The new regionalism (federalism?)

9 new Government Office Regions (GORs) in England from 1994:

- East of England
- East Midlands
- London
- North West
- North East
- South West
- South East
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire and Humberside

The new regional architecture

- Regional Development Agencies
- Regional Assemblies (?)
- Regional Cultural Consortia comprising:
  - Arts Council England
  - English Heritage
  - Sport England
  - Museums, Libraries and Archives Council
  - Audio-visual sector (South West Screen)
  - South West Tourism
  - Industry representatives
  - Local government representatives

The new policy architecture - and imperatives

- The Creative Industries Agenda (1997, 1998, 2001)
- Regional Cultural Strategies
- Local Government Cultural Strategies (by 2002)
- Integrated Regional Strategies
- Best Value Reviews and Indicators
- Integration of Cultural Strategies and Community Plans
- Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA)
- Public Service Agreements (PSAs) from 2005 - 2008

The new ‘tools’

- Creative industries mapping: national, regional, local
- The *Regional Cultural Data Framework/DCMS Evidence Toolkit*
- Sector definition and the value production chain/culture cycle
- Cultural mapping/planning via cultural strategies and community plans
- Social and cultural capital assessment

Developments in the South West

- Regional Cultural Strategy (2001)
- Integrated Regional Strategy (2004)
- State of the Region (2004)
- Creative Industries Mapping (2003)
- Sub regional/sector mapping:
  - Cornwall (2002)
  - Somerset, Devon, Gloucestershire (2003-2005)
  - Audio visual (2004)
  - Non-media sector (2005)
- Regional intelligence (from 2003)
- Bristol Capital of Culture bid for 2008