

Tim Alers

Economic Development in Scotland

Changes and Prospects for the Economic Core Region
Edinburgh

Thesis (M.A.)

Bibliographic information published by the German National Library:

The German National Library lists this publication in the National Bibliography; detailed bibliographic data are available on the Internet at <http://dnb.dnb.de> .

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ISBN: 9783832487355

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*Changes and Prospects for the
Economic Core Region Edinburgh*

Magisterarbeit

Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH)

Institut für Geographie

Abgabe August 2004



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ID 8735

Alers, Tim: Economic Development in Scotland -

Changes and Prospects for the Economic Core Region Edinburgh

Hamburg: Diplomica GmbH, 2005

Zugl.: Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH),

Magisterarbeit, 2004

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Printed in Germany

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Abbreviations

AEF	Aggregate External Finance
CDA	Central Development Area
CEC	City of Edinburgh Council
EICC	Edinburgh International Conference Centre
EIP	Examination in Public
EZ	Enterprise Zone
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GB	Great Britain
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEAR	Glasgow Eastern Area Renewal
HBOS	Halifax/Bank of Scotland
HIDB	Highland and Island Development Board
HPI	Highland Perthshire Initiative
IDC	Industrial Development Certificate
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
LEC	Local Enterprise Company
NEAR	North Edinburgh Area Renewal
NHS	National Health Service
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidelines
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PAN	Planning Advice Note
PLI	Public Local Inquiry
R&D	Research and Development
RDA	Regional Development Agency
RSA	Regional Selective Assistance
SDA	Scottish Development Agency
SEEL	Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian
SIMD	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
SME	Small and medium sized enterprises
SPP	Scottish Planning Policies
UK	United Kingdom
VR	Virtual Reality
WEL	Waterfront Edinburgh Ltd
WTC	World Trade Centre
WWI/WWII	World War I/II

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Introduction

This thesis tries to examine the structures, activities, changes and spatial impacts of economic development in Scotland. Looking at the Scottish economy it has to be considered that Scotland is both an integrated part of the UK and the UK economy and a peripheral region within the UK. Therefore Scotland does not have an economy of its own, but the distinctiveness of the region in terms of location, history and recent political developments justifies a closer examination of the matter. Scotland is in many aspects a very heterogeneous region. This is in particular true for the economic structure and a focus on one region cannot be representative. Edinburgh is an exceptionally prosperous region, not only in Scottish terms. However this prosperity and activity in economic development makes Edinburgh an interesting subject for examination. Thus the focus of this thesis lies on the developments in Edinburgh. Economic development is certainly influenced by a vast number of factors and it is impossible to take all of them into account. Within this thesis the emphasis lies on governmental influence on the developments. However European development measures are not considered. Accordingly the thesis aims to look at the ways the promotion of economic development is carried out in Scotland and tries to assess the measures on the background of the distinctiveness of Scotland and Edinburgh.

Thus in the first chapter the thesis takes a look at Scotland as a whole, examining the physical environment, the administrative framework and its recent changes. Furthermore it looks at the economic legacy of the heavy industries and the recent developments in the Scottish economy. Subsequently the history and institutions of the promotion of economic development in Britain and Scotland are presented. The last part of the first chapter deals with the planning framework in Scotland. The second chapter portrays Edinburgh's economic structure. The key industries are presented briefly as are the institutions of economic development. Afterwards parts of the Edinburgh development plan are examined. The third chapter focuses on the Waterfront project in Edinburgh. The background of waterfront re-

talisation is presented. The project and its participants are then examined in some detail. Finally a conclusion is drawn on the developments in Edinburgh.