

The Changing Economy of the UK Case Studies

Topic	Case Study
Comparing Industrial Structure	<p><u>North East v South East UK</u></p> <p>North East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main industries used to be coal-mining, shipbuilding, chemicals and iron and steel production • These industries have rapidly declined in recent decades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High unemployment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1947 – 108,000 miners in 127 pits ▪ 1994 – Only 55 workers and the last mine closed ○ Increases in crime, alcoholism etc. • Enterprise zones created, encourage secondary industry by lowering taxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 63,000 people now employed • Growth of public sector employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government call centres = 263,000 employed in the region <p>South East:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for service industries, e.g.: health, education and transport • Lots of financial and business services • Excellent infrastructure allowing for easy access to the rest of the UK and the world • Highly skilled workforce, close to government • Low unemployment, 6.0% in 2013
Environmental Impacts of De-industrialisation	<p><u>Sheffield, UK</u></p> <p>Sheffield used to be UK's steel industry until the 1980s when the industry declined dramatically with deindustrialization</p> <p>Positive Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Since the closure of factories, the water is no longer polluted because factories used to be dumping their industrial waste into water ways • Air Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No factories releasing pollution into the environment • Regeneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The old industrial sites which are disused are now available for regeneration, e.g. Hadfield's steelworks is now Meadowhall shopping centre <p>Negative Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derelict Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As the steel factories closes, about 900 hectares of derelict land and abandoned buildings were left behind, many of them polluted with heavy metals and other industrial waste • Greenfield Sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As people are unable to find work in inner Sheffield, there is increasing pressure on the greenfield sites on the edge of Sheffield for homes and businesses • Traffic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As jobs in Sheffield are becoming scarcer, people are having to travel further to reach their jobs increasing congestion
Greenfield v Brownfield development	<p><u>Brownfield – Longbridge, West Midlands</u></p> <p>Proposed £1 billion redevelopment project for the site of the former Rover car factory</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £70 million will go for the construction of a new town centre • There will be a new Sainsbury's store with 165,000 sq feet of retail space. • 25 new shops and restaurants • 3 new green parks to improve the quality of the local environment • 40 apartments beside the parks • 10,000 new jobs • 2000 new homes on 468 acre site

- New community facilities
- Bournville college relocated to new site costing £66 million
- Eases pressure on nearby greenbelt
- In 2011, 98% of housing building in Birmingham was on Brownfield sites

Costs:

- Nearby shop owners in Northfield fear they will lose trade
- Local house prices will go up with the demand for new housing - local people may no longer be able to afford them
- An increase in congestion on the roads

Greenfield – Dudley, West Midlands

Plan to build 334 homes in Pensnett, an area on the edge of Dudley

Benefits:

- nice environment surrounding the site as there is greenbelt countryside surrounding it
- no need to demolish old buildings you would find on brownfield sites
- new homes will be built
- new jobs

Costs:

- New infrastructure will need to be built
- added congestion to an already congested area
- not sustainable - added pressure to greenfield sites
- area losing more green space