

# How to Set Up and Scale a Living Lab

**James Evans, University of  
Manchester**



# The rise and rise of ULLs



ULLs can be buildings, streets, neighbourhoods or districts within cities



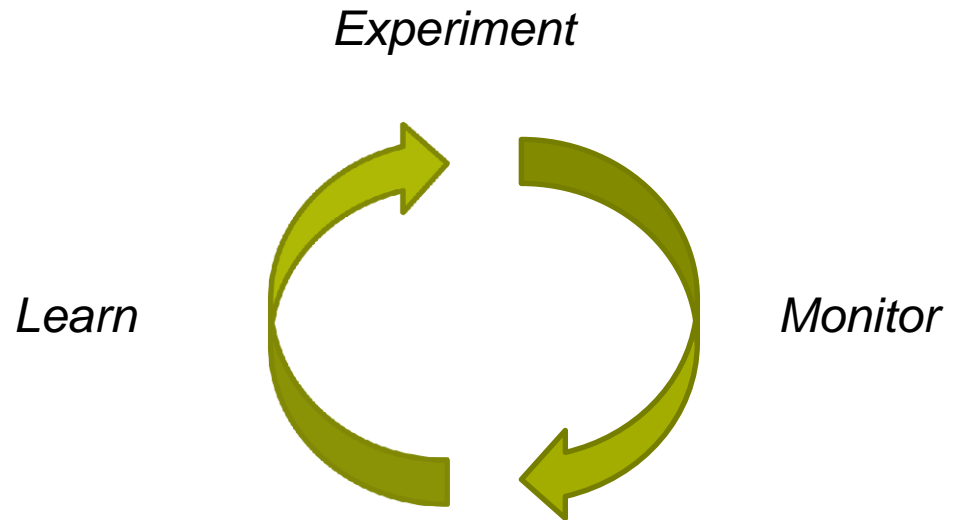
Designated to host a multitude of social and technical experiments to inform urban policy, planning and, in particular, politics.



A mode of governing that is rapidly growing in popularity as cities attempt to learn how to become more sustainable under conditions of economic, social and environmental uncertainty.

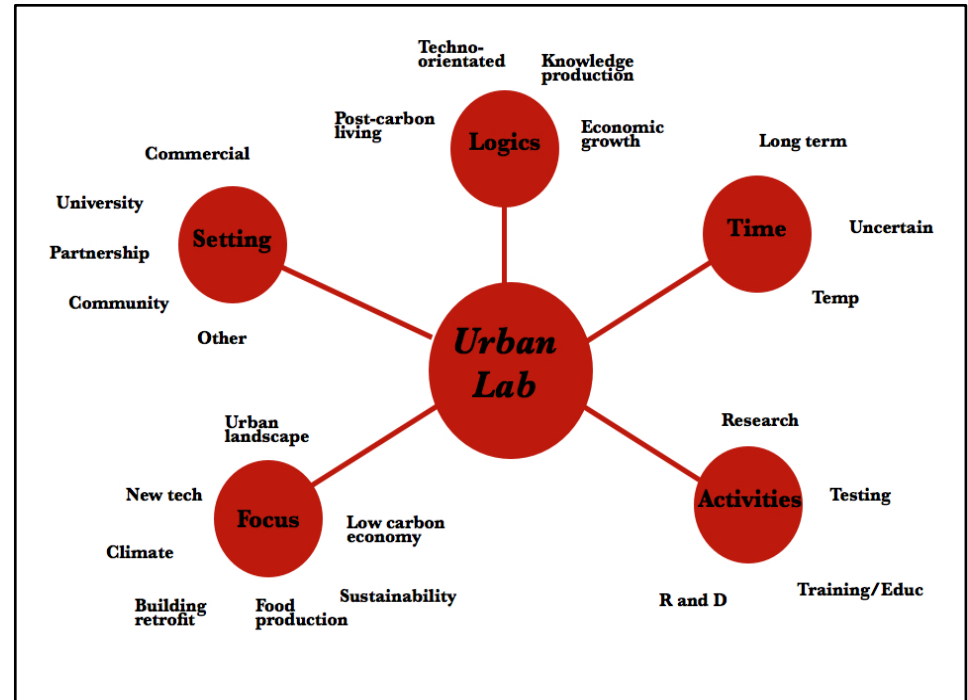
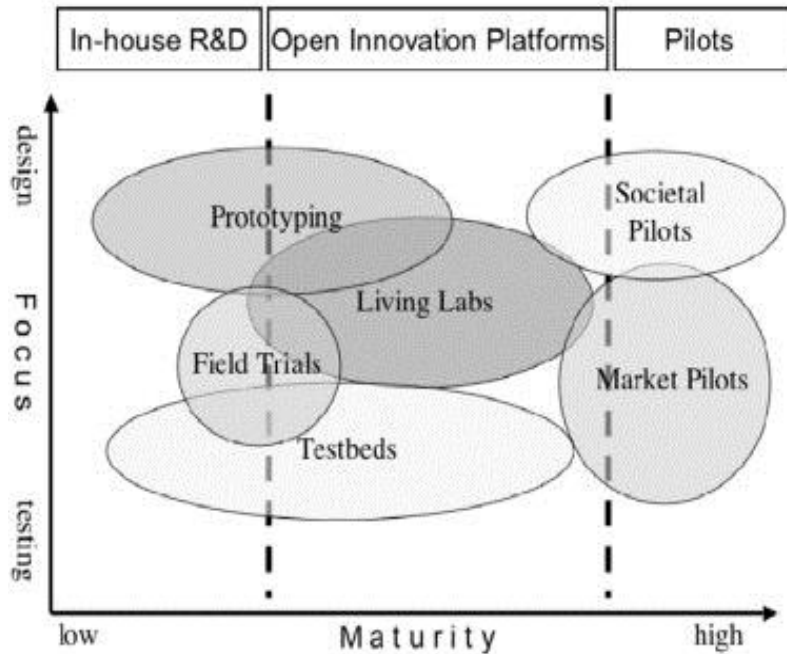
# Living lab approach

*Institutionally bounded environment in which to make material interventions in the (real) world and learn from them in a rigorous way'*



Evans, J. and Karvonen, A. (2014) Give me a laboratory and I will lower your carbon footprint!' – Urban Laboratories and the Pursuit of Low Carbon Futures. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 38 (2), 413-430

# Characteristics of lab style governance



Silver, J. and Marvin, S. (Forthcoming) Emerging Styles of Urban Experimentation. In: Evans, J., Karvonen, A. and Raven, R. (Eds.) *The Experimental City*. Routledge, London

# Campuses as living labs for sustainability



MANCHESTER  
1824

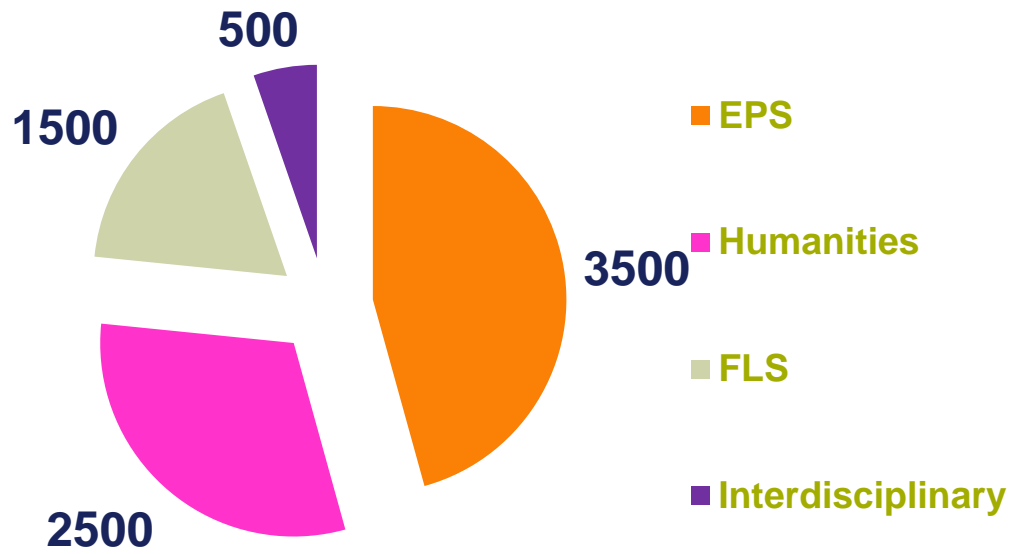
The University of Manchester

Manchester Urban Institute



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THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR  
INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

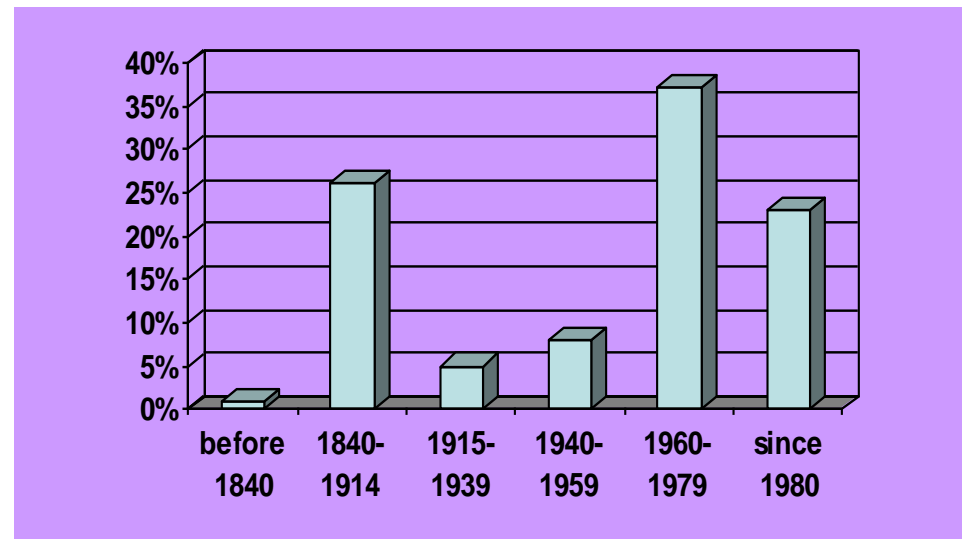
# The opportunity: academic resource



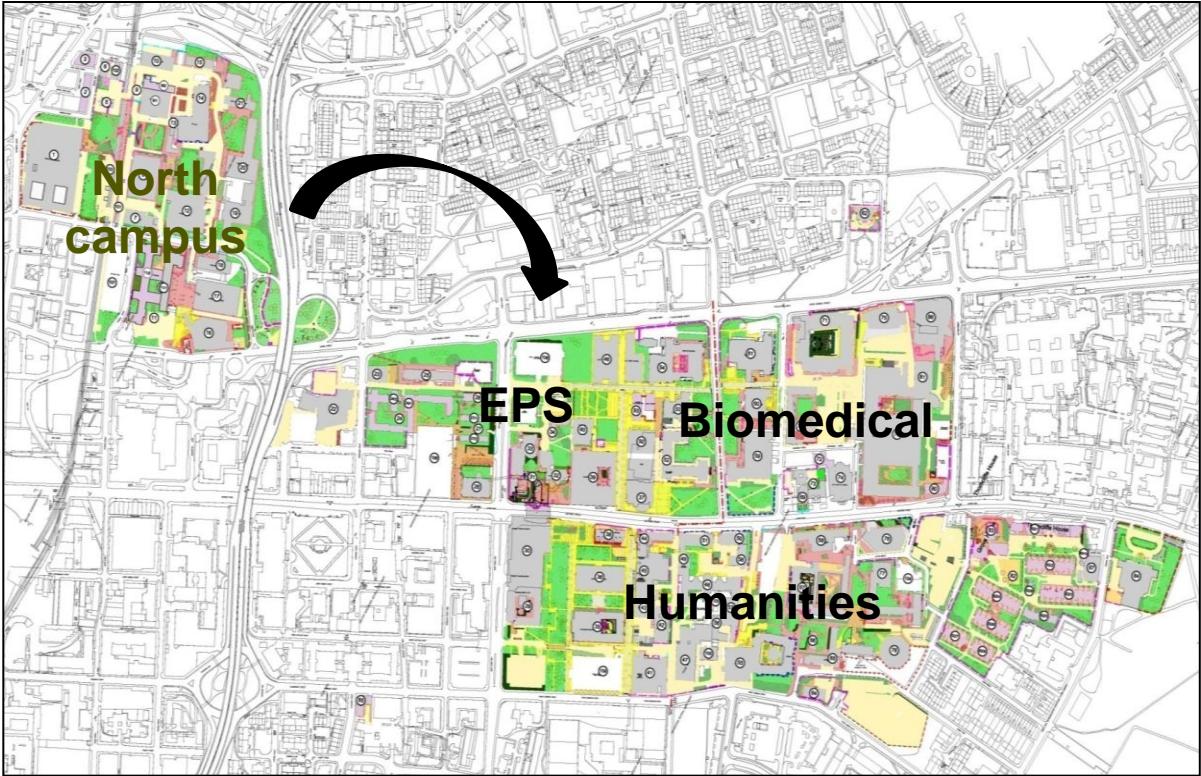
- 380 Contacts (150+ PSS)
- 100+ Courses
- 80+ Research Projects,
- 100+ Groupings

# The opportunity: campus test bed

- 85 hectare campus
- Over 300 buildings
- Over 45,000 students and staff.
- £1bn to be spent on capital projects in the next decade



# New Campus





# University Living Lab: goals

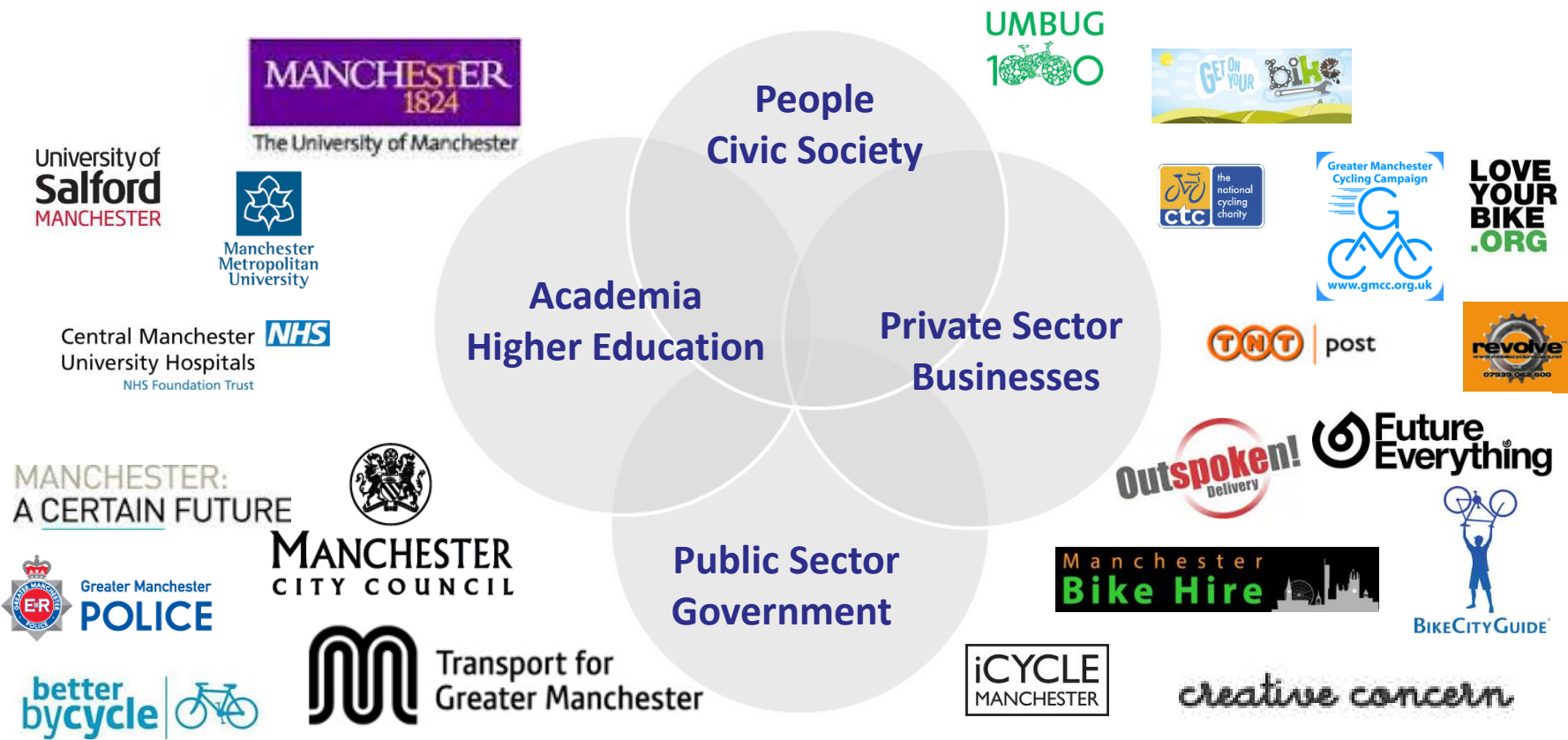
- Collate existing and potential research and teaching activities for the UoM campus
- Collate current and planned Estates activities (new build, retrofit and management) and relevant data
- Establish venues for constructive collaboration between researchers and Estates
- Apply for long-term funding from the public and private sectors
- Produce a roadmap for future UoM living lab activities

# Student projects working with Estates and Procurement

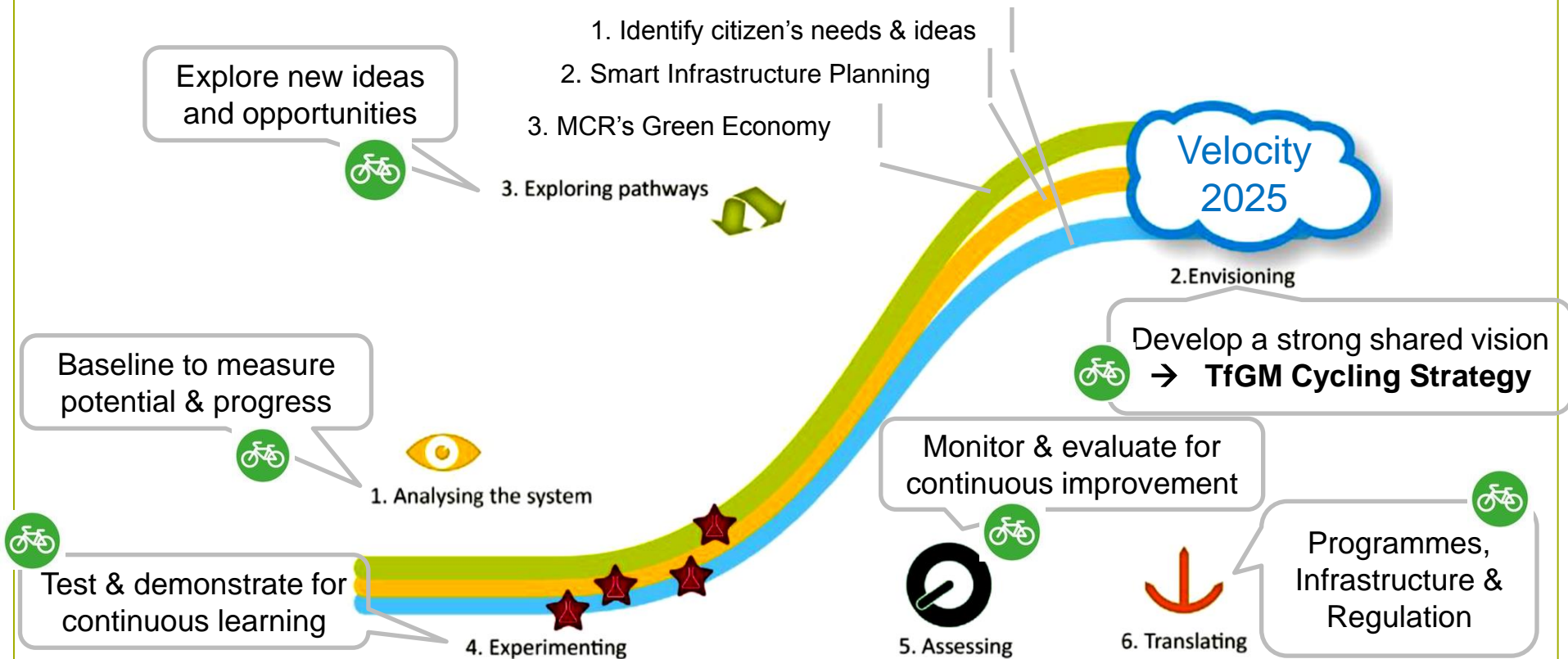
- Building refurb:  
<http://static.universitylivinglab.org/sites/default/files/Student%20Dissertation%20Opportunities.pdf>
- Sustainable procurement:  
<http://static.universitylivinglab.org/sites/default/files/Student%20Dissertation%20Opportunities%20procurement.pdf>
- Living Lab enabling design



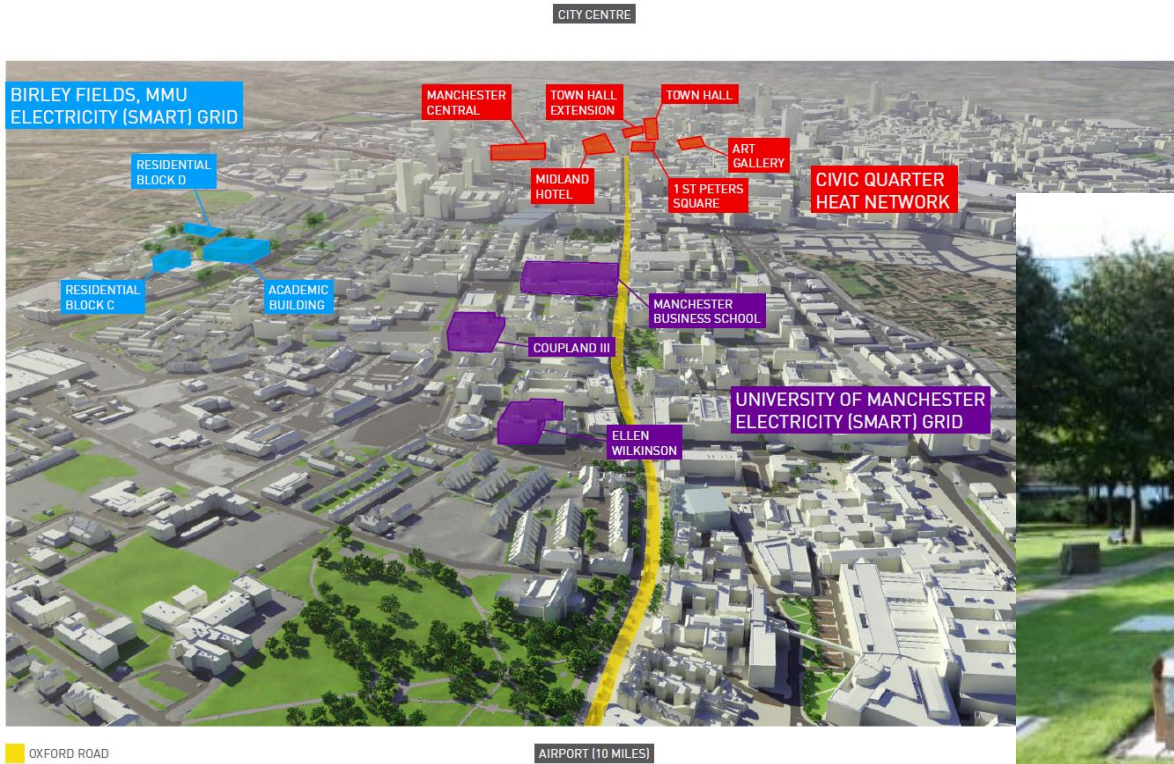
# Coordination: Manchester Cycling Lab



# Role of universities in supporting transition



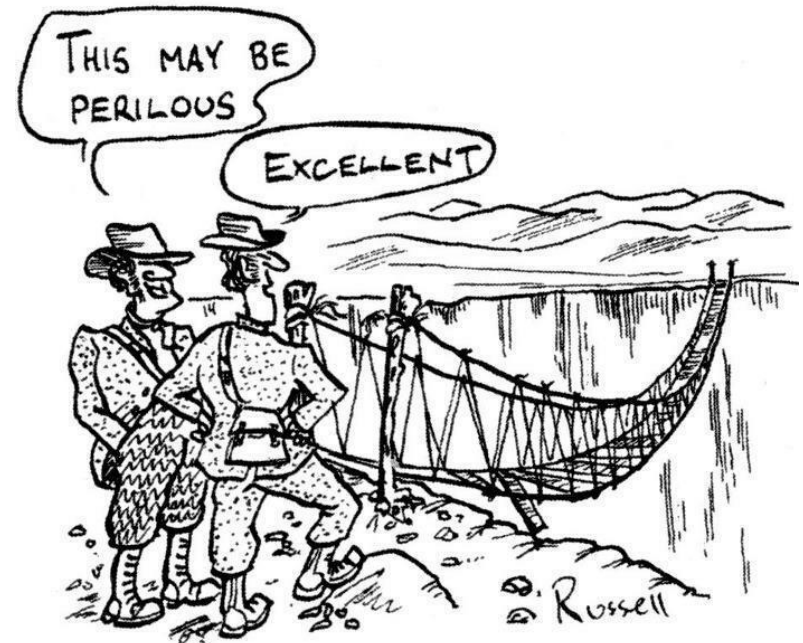
# From the campus to the city?



# Key challenges

- Streamlining development of opportunities
- Scaling from campus to city and back again
- Coordinating projects
- Organisational change
- Evaluation

## Victorian risk assessment



# Thanks

## Contact:

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## Links:

<http://www.urbanlivinglabs.net/> #urbanlivinglabs

<http://www.iiiee.lu.se/research/projects/advancing-urban-innovation-living-labs-sustainable-building-and-planning>

<http://universitylivinglab.org/manchestercyclinglab> @mcrcyclinglab

<http://www.triangulum-project.eu/> @Triangulum\_EU