



EUROPEAN UNION  
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European Regional  
Development Fund 2007-13

# Making the most of EU Structural Funds in the East Midlands

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East Midlands  
Councils



# Localisation of EU funding

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- Establishment of a national ‘EU Growth Programme’
- LEPs to develop EU investment strategies (January 2014)
- Each LEP to be given a ‘notional allocation’ of EU funding to prioritise
- Payments to be made centrally
- Notional allocations will be reviewed against performance from 2017 onwards

# Key Outcomes

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*“It’s the economy, stupid”*

- More Jobs
- Less Worklessness



# Current Experience

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- Spend under the current ERDF Programme has been slow
- Too many small projects - difficult to see a strategic impact
- Original operational programme did not fully meet local needs - e.g. Broadband



# Future Challenges

- 1 region replaced by 7 LEPs – 4 overlapping
- Pressure for early spend on projects that will deliver clear outcomes
- LEP notional allocations to be reviewed in 2017- under-performance could be penalised





# EMC Technical Assistance Project

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- Raise awareness and understanding of new processes
- Highlight strategic opportunities for growth in the East Midlands based on evidence
- Highlight opportunities for collaborative activity that will generate strategic scale projects



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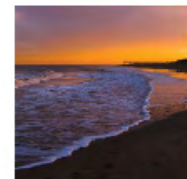


# Meeting Need/ Realising Opportunity

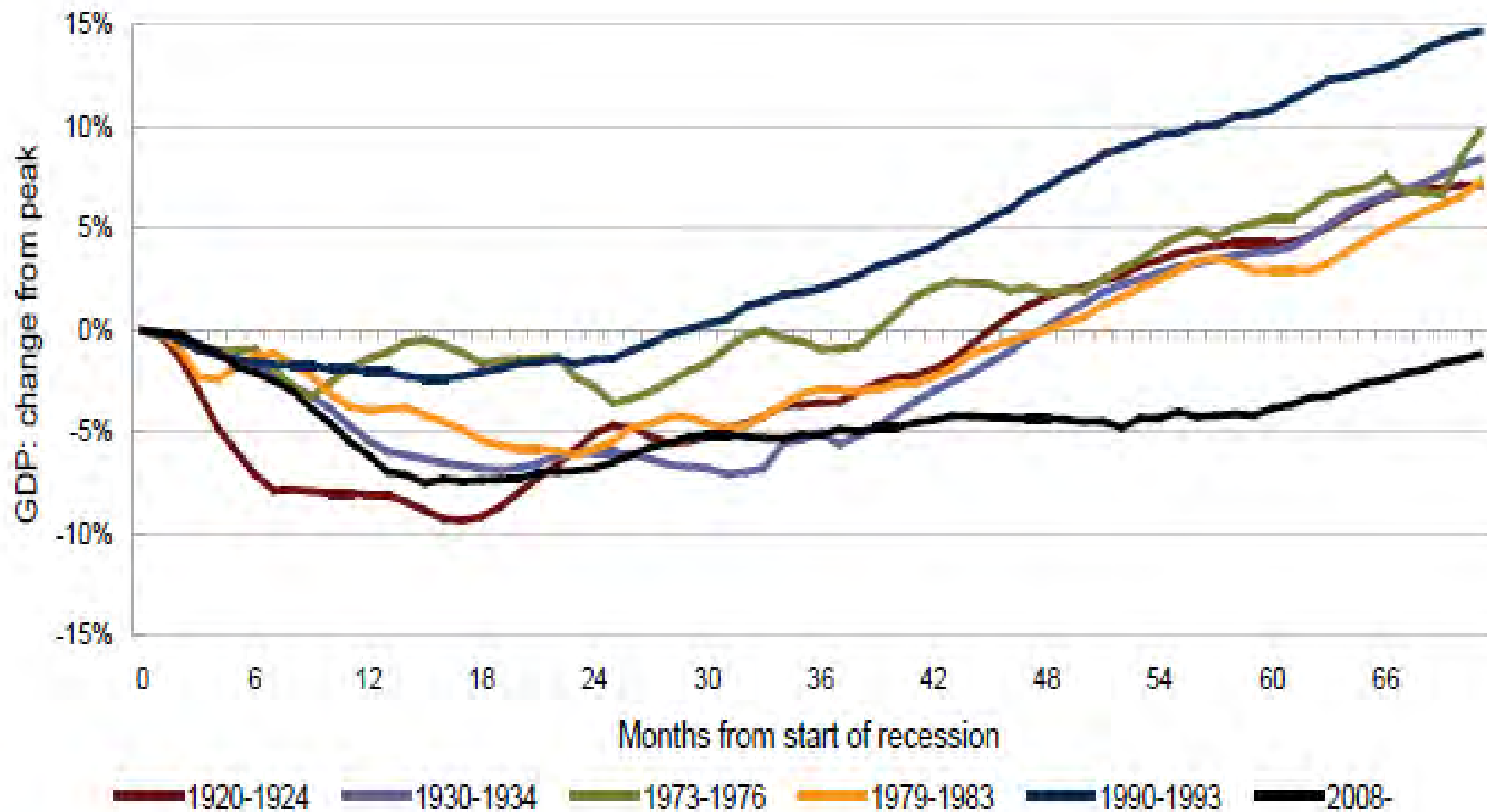
- Economic Analysis
- Potential Interventions
- Delivery Challenges & Opportunities
- Next Steps

## Meeting Need Realising Opportunity

A Socio-Economic Framework for the East Midlands  
to Inform the Delivery of EU Structural Funds (2014-2020)

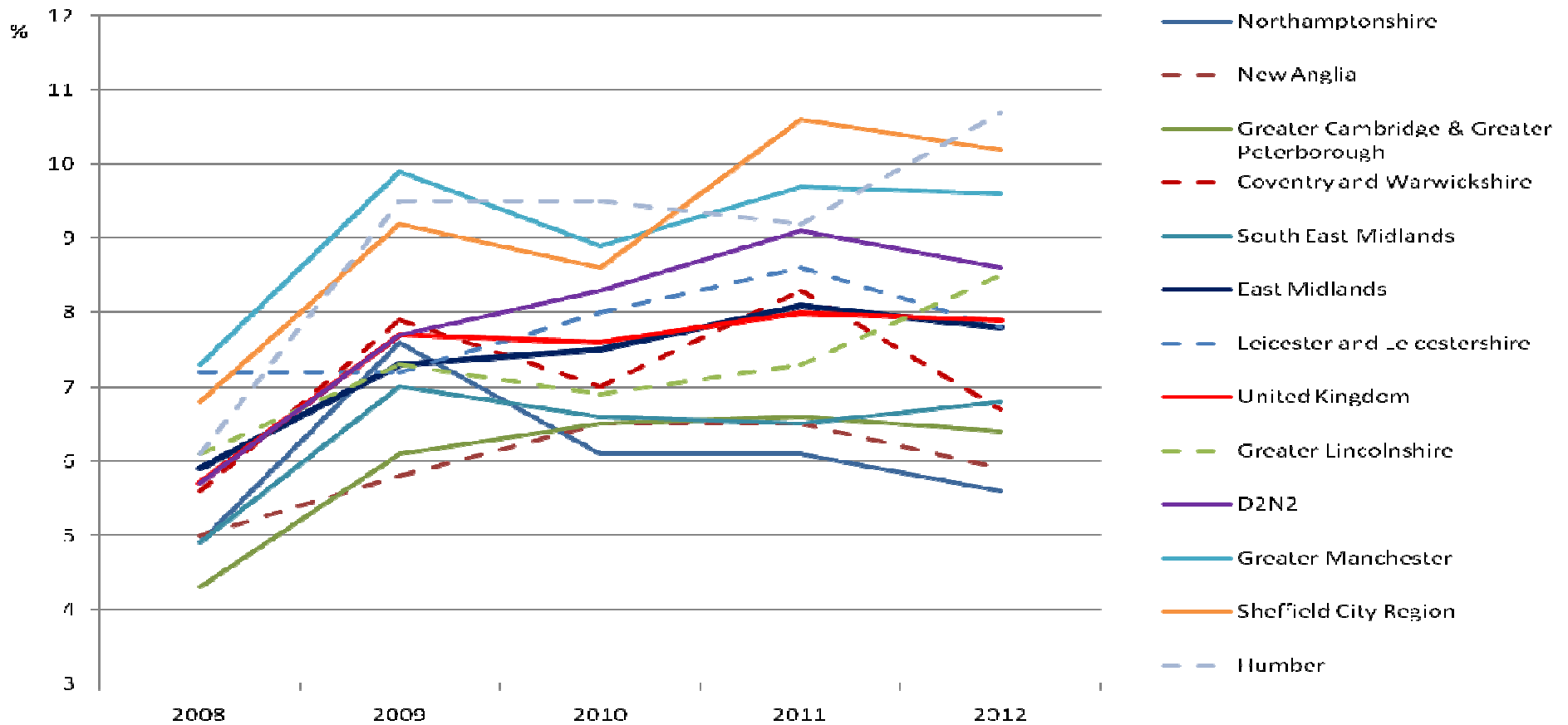


# National Economic Context



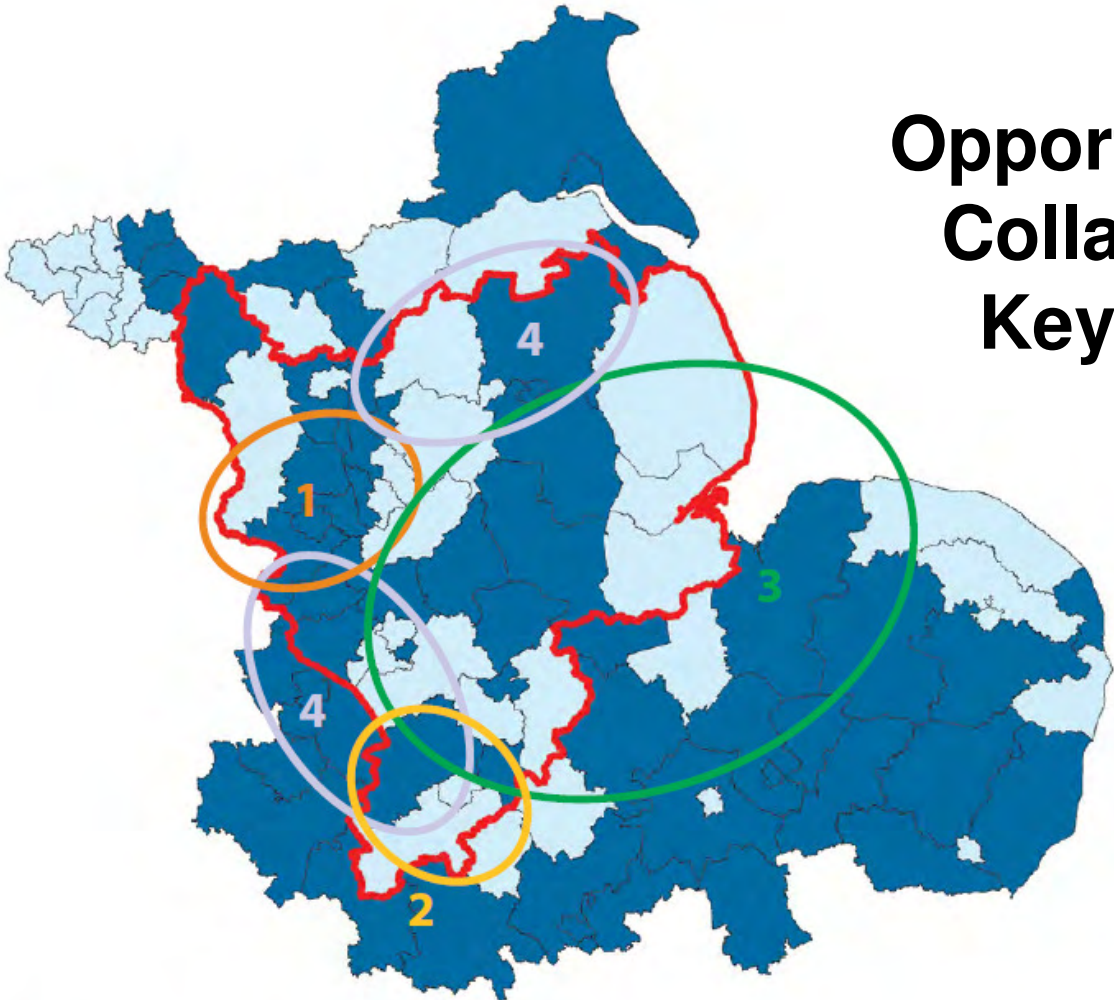


# Local Economic Context






Trends in the Unemployment Rate (% 16+ resident population), 2008-2012





# Opportunities for Collaboration: Key Sectors



Employment in high and medium-high technology industry (%)

Above / below national average

-  East Midlands Region
-  0.8 to 3.1 (36)
-  3.1 to 15.0 (59)

-  1 Transport Equipment (Automotive, Rail & Aerospace)
-  2 High Performance Automotive/ Motorsports
-  3 Food Technology
-  4 Energy Generation & Supply

NOTTINGHAM  
BUSINESS SCHOOL  
Nottingham Trent University



# Potential Interventions

- SME Growth & Competitiveness
- Low Carbon Economy
- Skills & Employment
- Collaborative Activity



# Collaborative Activity

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- Key sectors (Transport, HPE, Energy, Food)
- Access to SME finance
- Access to business support & training initiatives
- Support for the visitor economy
- Improving low skill levels



# Delivery Challenges & Solutions

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- Securing Match Funding
- Reducing Risk & Complexity
- Countering Fragmentation
- Addressing Cross Cutting Issues



# Securing Match funding

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- Aligning with existing spending programmes
- Making creative use of LEP Growth Fund
- Making smart use of national opt-in proposals - particularly in the early years of the programme



# Reducing Risk & Complexity

- Investing in EU Funding expertise
- Fully integrated Government Growth Teams
- Publicising best practice examples
- Using appropriate project indicators



# Countering Fragmentation

- Minimum project size
- Joint LEP initiatives – particularly in the ‘overlap’ areas
- Development of partnership arrangements or ‘specialist’ centres





# Next Steps



- 'Fast Track to Growth': Rail event (26<sup>th</sup> February, Roundhouse, Derby)
- Similar events planned for High Performance Engineering, Food & Energy
- Working with OneEM to develop a comprehensive 'lessons learned' document



# Any Questions?

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