

Partnerships

Component Factor

Yes, part of Networks and Partnerships Priority ([view](#))

Ranking

Partnerships	Rank	Score	Descriptor
Influence	74 th out of 237	4.02 out of 5	Highly Influential
Control	50 th out of 237	3.48 out of 4	Controllable
Priority	27 nd out of 237	13.99	Very high priority

Description/Definition

The presence of effective formal or informal partnerships is particularly relevant in contemporary urban and/or local governance settings. Based on Le Feuvre et al (2016: 56) a place partnership is “often a very diffuse and amorphous agglomeration of groups from public, private and voluntary sectors, with different ethea, mindsets, perspectives, modus operandi etc.”.

Why does it matter? (Influence)

The turn towards networked-relational place management approaches in towns and cities (Ntounis, Medway and Parker, 2020) necessitate the promotion and creation of partnerships, ensuring that the correct people (e.g. the local community) will have a say in the regeneration of their high street, thus also fostering social capital (Hemphill et al., 2006). Strong partnerships are also important in specific retail environments within the high street (e.g. markets, shopping centres), where a high level of trust and effective communication is needed between retailers, traders and managers in order to facilitate cooperation and holistically fuse everyone’s interests and competencies in the overall image and brand of the centre.

What can you do about it? (Control)

It is important for the leading place management body (from the local council, BID, LEP or town team) to navigate through the complex networks of place stakeholders and ensure that all existing organisations, partnerships and town groups with a responsibility for the centre are identified and monitored on a regular basis. As Le Feuvre et al. (2016: 56) point out, “the major point of centrality for stakeholders in urban partnerships is the partnership itself”, meaning that it is at everyone’s long-term interest, regardless of their differing agendas, mindsets and modus operandi, to work collaboratively and organise in a way that

nurtures knowledge exchange and subsequently maximises the chance of positive outcomes. As high streets are in a particularly vulnerable strategic position due to long-term pressures in their socio-economic fabric, the creation of strong partnerships and strategic alliances can potentially benefit all high street stakeholders, provided that a commitment to engage in the processes of communication, trust building, and knowledge exchange is secured.

See also

Vision and Strategy; Place Management; Redevelopment Plans

References

Hemphill L, McGreal S, Berry J and Watson S (2006) Leadership, power and multisector urban regeneration partnerships. *Urban Studies* 43(1): 59–80.

Le Feuvre M, Medway D, Warnaby G, et al. (2016) Understanding stakeholder interactions in urban partnerships. *Cities* 52: 55–65.

Ntounis N, Medway D and Parker C (2020) Managing Places. In Edensor T, Kalandides A and Kothari U (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of Place*. London: Routledge, pp. 335-345.