

# Dr Tom Fleming

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## Career History

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**Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy, *Director* 2002 – Present**

**[www.tfconsultancy.co.uk](http://www.tfconsultancy.co.uk)**

Dr Tom Fleming is director of Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy. Tom is a leading thinker, strategist and commentator on creativity, innovation and cultural policy. His work ranges from advising government to developing new thinking on creativity and innovation for cities and regions.

Tom specialises in research, strategy and policy for the cultural and creative economy at all levels. He works to establish the climate for creativity, innovation, collaboration, business growth, cultural planning and creative place-making. Key areas of specialism include cultural planning, cluster development, creative economy strategy, feasibility work, intellectual property, investment and competitiveness. He is particularly interested in identifying how culture and creativity provide different opportunities and challenges in different places: the role of place is a critical factor in economic and cultural policy.

He has led multiple research and strategy programmes on behalf of government, regional development agencies and high profile national bodies, as well as undertaken significant international work. Central to his approach is the relationship between creativity and economic development, where creativity can drive the growth of a range of sectors and enhance the prospects for specific places to attract highly skilled and culturally active citizens. His work includes Creative cluster Strategies for Northern Portugal, Dubai, Lebanon, Russia, Egypt, and across the UK; creative economy strategies and sector mapping projects from Sheffield to London, East of England to the South West; and a range of high level creative economy policy documents such as a Strategy for Creative Scotland, a Creative Economy Green Paper for the 5 Nordic Council of Ministers, and an active role in the UK Creative Economy Programme.

Tom is an established public speaker, with experience on the conference platform and managing seminars and workshops. He has worked across the UK and in over 30 countries. He is an advisor on cultural policy to the Council of Europe and British Council, consultant to the European Commission, and Trustee to Arts for All, a local arts charity in east London.

**Cultural Industries Development Agency (CIDA), *Programme Manager* 2000 - 2002**

**[www.cida.co.uk](http://www.cida.co.uk)**

As Programme Manager, Tom Fleming was a founding partner of the Cultural Industries Development Agency. He worked with partners to establish the company, develop its strategy, and deliver its programme. Tom co-designed and managed a programme of specialist support, advice and guidance to the creative economy of East London, as well as undertaking an advocacy and guidance role to firmly establish the creative industries at the heart of London's policy agenda.

**Manchester Institute of Popular Culture, *Research Associate* 1998 – 2000**

Tom led a research programme on creative and cultural policy, spanning models of good practice across the world to establish a good practice guide to cultural and creative policy. This was as part of an ESF Adapt research programme. This in turn informed strategy at national level through the DCMS Creative Industries Task Force and Mapping Document; plus Charles Landry's 'Creative City' (on which Tom undertook substantial research).

## Education

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1995 – 1998 University of Sheffield, PhD in Human and Cultural Geography

1992 – 1995 University of Sheffield, BA(Hons) Human Geography, First Class