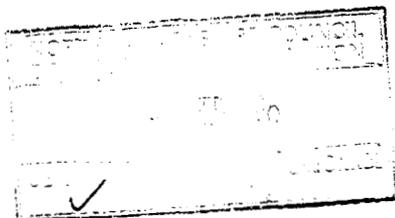


AGENDA ITEM No. 7

Our Ref: ME/ER/FEB005  
15 February 1996

A Cowe  
Chief Executive  
North Lanarkshire UA  
Civic Centre  
Motherwell  
Scotland, ML1 1TW



DA for C15

Barclay House,  
35 Whitworth Street West,  
Manchester M1 5NG.  
Tel: (0161) 236 7036  
Fax: (0161) 236 1891

Dear Colleague

**LOCAL EUROPE '96: BRUSSELS CONFERENCE - MARCH 19TH, 1996**

I am writing today to let you have details of the last conference in our present study "Local Europe '96". This programme of work, which has lasted a year, was intended to examine the local and regional agenda for this year's European Inter-Governmental Conference.

Shortly before Christmas, we published our interim report, which highlighted two key issues:

**Economic and monetary union**

The future of economic and monetary union is in the balance. But whether or not EMU proceeds, new patterns of winning and losing regions will continue to emerge. There is an urgent need, identified by the European Parliament, for studies to identify these winning and losing regions, and the new demands for Structural Funds support that this will introduce.

**Enlargement**

If the European Union is extended to take in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, it is most unlikely that the Structural Funds would continue in their present form. Local authorities need to face this issue now.

In order to discuss and evaluate these issues, we have put together a distinguished platform, including

**European Commissioner, Neil Kinnock**  
**John Palmer, the European Editor of the Guardian**  
**Arlene McCarthy MEP**  
**Jeremy Smith, the Director of the Local Government International Bureau**

Other speakers, from the European Commission and the Parliament, as well as from local government, have been invited.

I am now enclosing an advance programme leaflet for the conference, and look forward to receiving your booking. Do let me know if I can assist with any further information.

While writing, I am also enclosing a flier for our latest publication in the "Regeneration Through Work" series "Making Benefits Work", on the development of an intermediate labour market. This links to our work on European issues, in that it picks up some of the ideas in the Delors White Paper on the future of employment.

Yours sincerely

.....  
**MICHAEL WARD**  
Director



(Encl.)



**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

Commissioner **Neil Kinnock**

**John Palmer**

European Editor, *The Guardian*

Professor **Michael Parkinson**

European Institute for Urban Affairs,  
Liverpool John Moores University

**Jeremy Smith**

Director, Local Government  
International Bureau

**Arlene McCarthy** MEP

**Richard Howitt** MEP

**Francois de Lavergne**

FERE Consultants

# Local Europe 96

European Parliament offices

Brussels

Tuesday 19 March 1996

## Conference

The local and regional agenda for the  
European Inter Governmental Conference

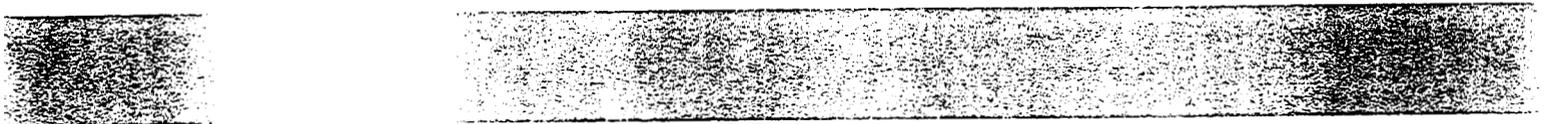
# Local Europe 96

## ★ Monday 18 March

7.00pm Reception  
at the European Parliament

## ★ Tuesday 19 March

- 10.00 Conference opens  
Chair: Michael Ward, Director, CLES  
**THE AGENDA FOR THE IGC**  
Neil Kinnock  
John Palmer  
Arlene McCarthy MEP  
Discussion
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE IGC**  
Jeremy Smith
- 2.15 **PROSPECTS FOR A EUROPEAN URBAN POLICY**  
Michael Parkinson
- 3.00 **CONVERGENCE AND COHESION**  
Issues for cities and regions  
Francois de Lavergne  
Richard Howitt MEP
- 4.00 Conference closes



# Programme

**Local Europe 96** was established by CLES to contribute to the process of setting an agenda for the 1996 European Inter Governmental Conference on local and regional issues.

This concluding conference brings together key decision makers to debate the conclusions of the study:

### ★ **Economic and Monetary Union**

Will EMU happen? When? How many countries will participate? .

Which regions will gain, and which will lose?

What new cohesion policies will be needed?

### ★ **Enlargement**

Can the existing European Structural Funds survive the enlargement of the European Union to the East?

### ★ **Race and migration**

What are the prospects for a Treaty commitment to oppose racism and xenophobia?

### ★ **Employment policy**

The Swedish Government has called for a Treaty commitment to full employment.

How should local and regional government respond?

Please return this form to:

Centre for Local Economic Strategies  
 Barclay House  
 35 Whitworth Street West  
 Manchester M1 5NG  
 Tel: (0161) 236 7036  
 Fax: (0161) 236 1891

Name .....

Position .....

Authority .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode

Tel .....

Fax .....

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at the **Local Europe 96** Conference.

**£200** CLES Subscribers

**£300** Non-subscribers

**Includes:** Conference and pre-conference reception  
 Lunch on 19 March and documentation

**Excludes:** Travel and accommodation

Please send me details of

- Block booking on Euro Star  
 Hotel accommodation

Please send a copy of the **Local Europe 96** Interim Report: *Convergence and Cohesion*, price £10.00 + £1.50 p&p.

Cancellations will not be accepted, unless received in writing 10 days prior to the event. Substitutes will be accepted.