

**CONFERENCE REPORT**

Committee: Economic Development

Subject: TEC/Chamber Mergers, Business Links and Local Authorities

Conference Organiser: Institute of Local Government Studies (INLOGOV)

Venue: Birmingham

Conference Fee: £175

Date(s): 28 November 1996

Recommendation: The Director of Planning and Development recommends no attendance at this Seminar



THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

School of Public Policy

inlogov INSTITUTE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDIES

### BOOKING FORM

SEMINAR: TEC/CHAMBER MERGERS, BUSINESS LINKS & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DATES: 28 NOVEMBER 1996

CODE: L27ACCC28

Please COMPLETE IN BLOCK capitals and return to: Seminar Secretary, Institute of Local Government Studies, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, BIRMINGHAM B15 2TT Telephone: 0121 - 414 4998 Facsimile: 0121 - 414 4989

ORGANISATION: \_\_\_\_\_ Tick if voluntary sector organisation [ ]

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name for queries: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (STD) \_\_\_\_\_ Ext \_\_\_\_\_

Designation and department: \_\_\_\_\_

#### DELEGATES

(i) Dr/Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FORENAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DESIGNATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Indicate here any special requirements (see below)

(ii) Dr/Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FORENAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DESIGNATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Indicate here any special requirements (see below)

(iii) Dr/Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FORENAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DESIGNATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Indicate here any special requirements (see below) (For further delegates photocopy form as required)

INVOICE unless otherwise requested our invoice will be sent to the delegate at the address above.

Cheque enclosed [ ] £ \_\_\_\_\_ or Please invoice [ ]

#### \*SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Vegetarian and vegan options are available. Please state special dietary needs.

If you have a disability and would like assistance please indicate.

Assistance is given in arranging childcare facilities. Please contact seminar secretary at the time of booking

Please tick box if you require a copy of our current Short Course brochure.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A booking forms a contract between the Authority and the Institute of Local Government Studies and is subject to cancellation charges at the following rates: 7-14 days before the date of the seminar 25% of fee;

1-6 days before the date of the seminar 50% of fee; non arrival full fee.

Notice of cancellation to be confirmed in writing.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

School of Public Policy

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A Day Seminar  
28 NOVEMBER 1996

## TEC/CHAMBER MERGERS, BUSINESS LINKS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### Keynote Speakers:

Chris Humphries, TEC National Council

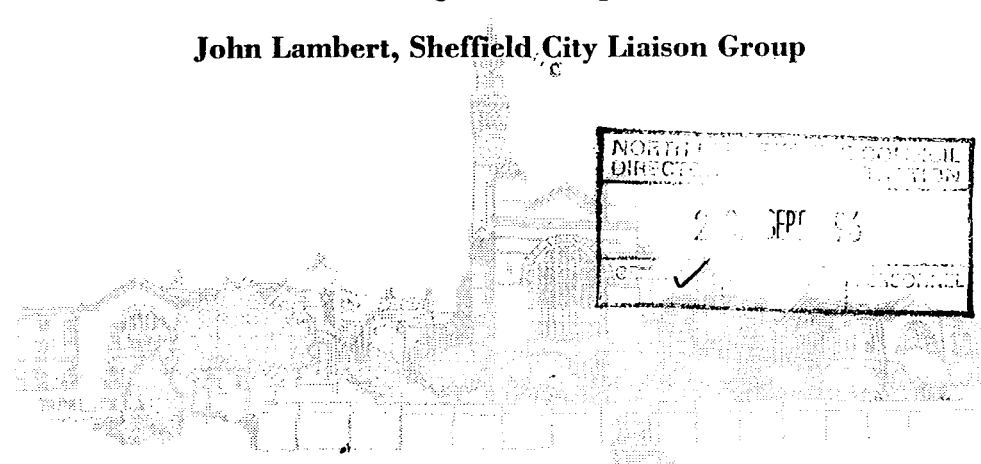
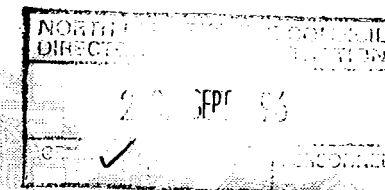
John Saunders, Chief Executive Business Link, Hereford

Martin Stott, Oxfordshire County Council

Philippa Holland, Government Office for the West Midlands

Joy Street, Southern Derbyshire Chamber of Commerce,  
Training and Enterprise

John Lambert, Sheffield City Liaison Group



## TEC/CHAMBER MERGERS, BUSINESS LINKS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Several TECs have merged with their local Chambers of Commerce, and more are expected to follow suit once the legal and tax position of such mergers is clarified.

But other Chambers and TECs wish to preserve their independence, and expand the range of services on offer without merger.

Meanwhile a network of over 200 Business Link outlets is in place, managed over TEC boundaries as partnerships between TECs, Chambers, local authorities, and sometimes other bodies in their areas, and still in receipt of top-up funding from the DTL.

Local authorities have always been involved in local economic development, through their planning powers, ownership of strategic sites and property, and involvement in the Single Regeneration Budget and European programmes such as the European Regional Development Fund.

How are these networks of institutions likely to develop at the local level? How can overlap be avoided? And accountability preserved and enhanced? What is the appropriate geographic scale for delivering services of business advice, vocational training, and development of local economic strategies and specializations? What is the role and contribution of the Government Offices?

This seminar will bring together leading figures to debate these issues - and include case studies of relevant current practice.

It is intended especially for local authorities which have to come to terms with these institutions and how they may be expected to develop in the future. It will also interest TECs, LECs, Chambers of Commerce (large and small), Business Links, enterprise agencies, and the regional government offices, who may be involved in mergers, or in decisions to stay as they are.

The intention of this seminar is to keep the presentations short, and to allow as much time as possible for discussion.

## Provisional Programme

- 9.30 Registration, Coffee
- 10.15 Welcome, Introduction  
**Dr. Andrew Coulson,**  
University of Birmingham
- 10.30 TEC/Chamber Mergers:  
A Logical Step?  
**Chris Humphries, Director**  
of Policy and Strategy, TEC  
National Council
- 11.00 Questions and Discussion
- 11.20 Coffee
- 11.30 The Future Development of  
Business Links  
**John Saunders,**  
Chief Executive, Business  
Link Hereford
- 12.00 Questions and Discussion
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 The Contribution of Local  
Authorities to Local Economic  
Development  
**Martin Stott, Economic**  
Policy Adviser, Oxfordshire  
County Council
- 2.00 Questions and Discussion
- 2.15 Government Offices and Partnerships  
**Philippa Holland,**  
Government Office for the  
West Midlands
- 2.45 Questions and Discussion
- 3.00 Tea
- 3.15 Case Studies: The Southern  
Derbyshire Chamber of  
Commerce, Training and  
Enterprise  
**Joy Street, Chief Executive**  
Partnerships in Sheffield  
**John Lambert, Chief**  
Executive, Sheffield City  
Liaison Group
- 4.15 Panel Discussion: The Future  
of Public/Private Business  
Partnerships
- 4.45 Seminar ends

## FEE

The fee for this seminar is £175 per person, which includes all refreshments, lunch and documentation.

## BOOKINGS

Bookings are subject to availability and should be made on the attached form as soon as possible, preferably before 29 October 1996.

This information is being circulated to:

- Chief Executives of TECs, LECs, Chambers of Commerce, Business Links, Enterprise Agencies
- Local Authorities: copies for Chief Executives, Leaders, Head of Corporate Strategy, Officer responsible for economic development

Venue:  
BIRMINGHAM