Leadership Academy 7th and 8th December 2010 Local Enterprise Partnerships

The government's commitment to abolish the Regional Development Agencies and devolve responsibility for local economic development to local areas highlights the importance of the role of local authorities in engaging, developing and leading effective relationships with the business community and other key stakeholders in order to create the conditions for achieving economic growth.

Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) will play a central role in driving economic renewal and assisting in the rebalancing of the economy from the public towards the private sector.

Naturally, each sub-regional area that is forming a LEP will be starting at different levels – some areas will have had many years of strong sub-regional working, for others these partnerships will be newer. Having submitted outline proposals to central government, it is now time for all emerging LEPS to further consolidate their partnership arrangements and to start developing their business plans for delivery of the priorities that they have identified.

This new Leadership Academy module, spanning over 2 days, will give leading elected members the opportunity to discuss and learn from their peers in other areas, and to debate the ingredients in making LEPs a success.

This module will also use the development of Local Enterprise Partnerships to explore the diplomacy and ambassadorial role that will be required by senior local politicians to lead effective relationships in order to create the conditions for achieving economic growth.

The format of the programme will offer a range of presentations and discussion, views from the private sector as well as offer the chance to take part in simulation scenarios using real issues experienced by local authority leaders. This is one Leadership Academy that you cannot afford to miss.

Kevin Lynes,

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Accredited elected member peer and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development at Kent County Council.