

Local Government Improvement and Development Local Enterprise Partnerships

Leadership Academy 7th and 8th December 2010, Warwick University

Programme objectives.

The 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.

Within this agenda Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are central to local and national government's vision of providing strategic leadership to achieve economic renewal, rebalancing the economy towards the private sector.

This fully subsidised* module aims to offer further support to senior local politicians in developing the skills necessary to play a full part in the strategic direction of LEP's. Key elements of this leadership role include:

- Engaging and working constructively with the private sector
- Working with senior politicians from other councils, often from other political parties
- Understanding the localism policy and its implications
- Understanding functional or natural economic geography and its relation to local council boundaries
- Prioritising actions to benefit local communities

Earlier work on political leadership at different spatial levels identified two important facets of the skills that are necessary – diplomacy and an ambassadorial role. This module will explore what this means in practice.

Objectives:

- To explore and better understand the private sector's role in local enterprise partnerships
- To engage with and work in a complementary fashion with local politicians from neighbouring areas
- To understand localism and what it might mean in a LEP context
- To explore the concept of natural economic space and its LEP implications
- To develop the leadership skills necessary to work effectively in a private sector led board and/or learn how to influence the board from the outside.

To apply for your place and find out more please call Grace Collins, Local Government and Improvement Leadership Team on 020 7296 6563 or contact Grace by e-mail at grace.collins@local.gov.uk. Places are offered fully subsidised and therefore we may need to limit places to ensure optimal experience for participants.

* Although places are fully subsidized we reserve the right to charge for no-shows – this would be £500 for this programme.