

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar: Next steps for economic development in Northern Ireland post-Brexit

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 25th April 2017

Venue: Hilton Belfast, 4 Lanyon Place, Belfast BT1 3LP



POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Mervyn Storey MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Challenges and opportunities for the Northern Ireland economy post-Brexit**
Professor Neil Gibson, Director, Economic Policy Centre, Ulster University
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.30 **Tackling the key challenges for businesses in a new economic environment**
- Priorities for manufacturing post-Brexit: trading, exports and the Northern Ireland Industrial Strategy*
Stephen Kelly, Chief Executive Officer, Manufacturing NI
- Cross-border trade: future border arrangements and trade relationships*
Richard Johnston, Non-Executive Director, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority
- Key challenges for small and medium enterprises: the influence of Brexit on tax, trade and the workforce*
Wilfred Mitchell, Northern Ireland Policy Chair, FSB
- The role of councils in developing local economies: re-examining strategies for growth and regeneration*
Derek McCallan, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Local Government Association
- Agriculture and the agri-food sector: standards, markets and workforce post-Brexit*
Ivor Ferguson, Deputy President, Ulster Farmers Union
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 - 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Mervyn Storey MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 10.35 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Michelle Gildernew MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
- 11.10 - 11.30 **Considering the economic implications of political uncertainty in Northern Ireland**
Dr Esmond Birnie, Senior Economist, Economic Policy Centre, Ulster University and former Chief Economist (Northern Ireland and Scotland), PwC
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 - 11.55 **'The rise of the city: internal devolution and 'city deals' in Northern Ireland'**
Phillip Blond, Director, ResPublica
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.35 **Universities, colleges and research and development - investment and development in training, skills and innovation to support industry and the economy**
- The role of further education colleges in economic development: building partnerships and priorities for skills and training*
Glyn Roberts, Chair, Colleges NI
- Key challenges for universities post-Brexit: investment, workforce and priorities for training*
Professor David Phinnemore, Professor of European Politics and Dean of Education, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Queen's University Belfast
- Partnerships in businesses and education: skills, apprenticeships and training an adaptable workforce*
John Healy, Managing Director, Allstate Northern Ireland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **Infrastructural development - challenges for long-term strategic investment**
Dr Martin Spollen, Chief Investment Officer, Strategic Investment Board
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Michelle Gildernew MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland