Westminster Social Policy Forum Keynote Seminar: Funding for regional projects beyond the European Union referendum - partnerships, devolution and the transition of EU Structural and Investment Funds

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 9th February 2017
Venue: Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.15 Chair’s opening remarks
Professor John Shutt, Professor of Employment and Regional Economic Development, Leeds Beckett University

Developing strategies for sustainable local growth post-Brexit - new approaches and the impact of EU funding
In light of the UK’s decision to leave the European Union, what strategies and policy initiatives would have the best prospects of securing parity of funding and future local economic growth? With the European Regional Development Fund aiming - within a European Union context - to strengthen economic and social cohesion by correcting imbalances between different regions, and the European Social Fund seeking to support employment and social mobility, to what extent should these priorities be reflected in new strategic approaches and how could they be achieved? What examples of best practice can inform thinking on supporting inclusive growth, innovation and research, improving the prospects for SMEs, and moving to a more low-carbon economy?

9.15 - 9.25 Bev Hurley, Chief Executive, YTKO Group

9.25 - 9.35 Sandra Rothwell, Chief Executive, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership

9.35 - 9.45 Sarah Whitney, Director, Whitney Consulting

9.45 - 9.55 Chris Henning, Director of Economic Development, Nottingham City Council

9.55 - 10.05 Dr Peter Simpson, Director, N8 Research Partnership

10.05 - 10.35 Questions and comments from the floor

10.35 - 10.40 Chair’s closing remarks
Professor John Shutt, Professor of Employment and Regional Economic Development, Leeds Beckett University

10.40 - 11.10 Coffee

11.10 - 11.15 Chair’s opening remarks
Sandra Rothwell, Chief Executive, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership

11.15 - 11.45 Co-financing projects and securing alternative models of funding
Patrick Magee, Chief Operating Officer, British Business Bank
Mark Richards, Partner and Head of Projects, Energy & Infrastructure Finance, Berwin Leighton Paisner
Questions and comments from the floor

11.45 - 12.55 Implications of leaving the EU across the United Kingdom - infrastructure, employment and economic stability
Stephen Gethins MP, Member of Parliament for North East Fife and Shadow SNP Spokesperson on Europe
Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP, Member of Parliament for Orkney and Shetland and former Secretary of State for Scotland
Senior parliamentarian
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chair’s and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks
Sandra Rothwell, Chief Executive, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership
Sam Dolton, Producer, Westminster Social Policy Forum