

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION UNIT
MEDIA INFORMATION
RELEASE IMMEDIATE: 9 November 2004

LGIU conference to discuss future of regional devolution

The Local Government Information Unit's (LGIU) Annual Conference this weekend provides the first opportunity for the local government community to discuss the future of regional devolution, following last week's vote in the North East against establishing a regional assembly.

The conference takes place at the Royal Hotel, York, on 12-13 November.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Friday 12 November

- 10:00 REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS
- 11:00 WELCOME
Cllr Dave Wilcox, Chair of the LGIU
Cllr Stephen Galloway, Leader of City of York Council
- 11:15 OPENING PLENARY: Where now for Localism?
Chair: Lord Best OBE, Director, Joseph Rowntree Foundation
- Dennis Reed, Chief Executive, LGIU
Eric Pickles MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Local Government and the Regions
Phil Willis MP, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Education and Skills
Sunder Katwala, General Secretary of the Fabian Society
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
- 13:00 LUNCH
- 14:00 STUDY TOURS AND WORKSHOPS
- 17:00 CLOSE OF DAYTIME PROGRAMME
- 19:30 MAYORS RECEPTION - National Railway Museum (City Entrance)
- 20:00 DINNER - National Railway Museum (City Entrance)
Sponsored by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, including after dinner speech by Gervase Phinn and music from brass band Fanfare

Saturday 13 November

- 09:30 WORKSHOPS
- 11:00 REFRESHMENTS

11:30

CLOSING PLENARY: Where now for Regional Government and Devolution?

Chair: Cllr Dave Wilcox, Chair of the LGIU

Cllr Ian Mearns, Deputy Leader, Gateshead Council

Judy Robinson, Director of the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Forum (a voluntary and community sector body)

Viv Sugar, Chair of the Welsh Consumer Association, member of the Richard Commission into the powers and electoral arrangement of the Welsh Assembly, former Chief Executive of Swansea

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

13:00

LIGHT LUNCH & CLOSE