

AGENDA

The Future of our City and Town Centres



Date: 29th January 2019
Time: 09.30 - 16:00 (Lunch served at 13.00)
Venue: **The Cavendish Conference Centre, 22 Duchess Mews, London,**
Room: The Amphitheatre

Facilitator for the day Andrew Carter, director of Centre for Cities

Time will be given after each speaker for questions.

09:30 Registration and breakfast

10:20 Welcome and purpose of the Conference

Cllr Peter Box, Leader, Wakefield Council and Chair of Key Cities

10:30 Meeting the challenge for our City and Town Centres

Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands (former Managing Director of John Lewis)

- The challenges facing our City and Town Centres

10:50 Re-shaping our City and Town Centres

Bill Grimsey - Business Leader and author of the first and second Grimsey Review

- Overview of the key findings and recommendations in the second Grimsey Review
- What local authorities within the Key Cities and beyond should be doing to reshape their City and Town Centres

11:30 Re-imagining the High Street

Patricia Brown – Director of Central

- How places could utilise opportunities within future high streets programme
- What cities should be doing to create the high street of the future
- Planning flexibilities to re-imagine the high street

11:45 Transformation in action - innovation and best practice across the Key Cities

Scott Butterfield, Infusion Service Manager

- Overview of key statistics and analysis from the research commissioned on the Key Cities (by Infusion Research - Blackpool Council)

Case study presentations from:-

- *Councillor John Beesley, Leader of Bournemouth Council*
- *Adam Hunt, Senior Development Executive, Coventry City Council*

12:30 Panel Discussion – how can UK City and Town Centres respond to challenges and opportunities in the current fiscal climate?

Panel members;

- Bill Grimsey - Business Leader and author of the first and second Grimsey Review

- Ojay McDonald - Chief Executive, Association of Town and City Management
- Stefan Gurney - Executive Director of Norwich Business Improvement District (BID) and Vice Chair of the BID Foundation
- Adam Lent - Director, New Local Government Network
- Patrick Melia - Chief Executive of Sunderland City Council

13:00 LUNCH

13:45 Future for the UK High Street – an outline of the research underpinning the High Street policy review

Steve Millington, Director of the Institute of Place Management

- Key findings of the High Street policy review, including an outline of priority interventions

14:05 How the UK Government is supporting City and Town Centres to meet their ongoing challenges

Rachel Campbell, Head of Regeneration, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

- Government's perspective on the city and town centres agenda

14:25 Offering experiences and alternatives 'beyond traditional retail'

Jon Shaw, Head of UK Consumer Sales Operations at Vodafone

- Best practice through an innovative approach to operating alternative forms of retail stores, including their flagship Oxford Street Hub
- Technological innovation to support city and town centre repurposing

14:40 Tea and Coffee break

15:00 Challenges facing the property market in City and Town Centres

Stephanie Pollitt, Assistant Director of Real Estate, British Property Federation

- Trends and challenges for the property market in city and town centres
- The role of the property sector in repurposing city and town centres
- The property sector as a partner in long term sustainability of city and town centres

15:20 Panel Discussion – How do the Key Cities collaborate for change?

Panel members:

- Cllr Peter Box - Chair of Key Cities
- Martin Reeves - Chief Executive of Coventry City Council
- Pat Brown – Director of Central
- Dr Steve Millington - Director of the Institute of Place Management
- Stephanie Pollitt, Assistant Director of Real Estate, British Property Federation
- Jon Shaw, Head of UK Consumer Sales Operations at Vodafone

15:50 Closing remarks and overview of the next steps for Key Cities

Councillor Beesley, Leader of Bournemouth Council and deputy chair of Key Cities

16:00 Conference closes