



Ideopolis: Knowledge Cities

July 2008

This issue features:

- **What's new:** Ideopolis Conference & Report, Ideopolis City Leaders Network, Party Conferences
- **Recent Publications:** Credit Crunch Report
- **Future Publications:** HE/FE paper, Creative Cities Paper
- **Getting Involved:** Ideopolis City Leaders Network
- **Keeping in touch**

WHAT'S NEW?

- We held our **Ideopolis Conference** on 16 July at the Lewis Media Centre in Whitehall. Hazel Blears MP, Ian Pearson MP, Sir Richard Leese and Kate Barker were amongst the speakers at a very stimulating and successful event. Details are available on our website [here](#).
- We published our final Ideopolis II report on 16 July: you may have seen the press coverage which included the Guardian, Independent, Public Finance and Regeneration and Renewal. [The report \(including an executive summary\) is available here.](#)
- Our second **Ideopolis City Leaders Network** event was on Thursday 5 June and was a stimulating debate looking at skills and how cities can attract and retain skilled workers. **Dr Charlie Ball** of HESCU and **Ray Mills**, Partner at PwC spoke and **Simon Fanshawe** of Brighton and Hove Economic Trust chaired.
- Our third **Ideopolis City Leaders Network** event was held on 4 July. **Sir Bob Kerlake** gave a unique insight into city leadership, drawing on his work at the HCA and his time at Sheffield City Council to answer the question 'Who runs the city?', whilst **Tom Bridges** of Arup provided advice about engaging more effectively with the private sector.

- The Ideopolis Team will be present at all three Party Conferences this year within a unique integrated programme of events on urban issues under the collective partnership of the **Urban Hub**, [see here for details](#). The partners within the Urban Hub, along with The Work Foundation, are the Centre for Cities, RIBA (the Royal Institute of British Architects), CABE (the Commission on Architecture and the Built Environment) and the Core Cities Group. The party conference programme will cover a wide range of urban issues, including housing and transport to the impact of recent economic turbulence on cities.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- **How can cities thrive in the changing economy?** is now completed and available to download. Please contact [Alexandra Jones](#) or Sarah Barnett if you have any questions or thoughts on this paper. [The press release is available here](#).

The report pulls together our Ideopolis research from the year, reviews which cities have become more or less productive over the last ten years, and highlights the likely impact of the credit crunch on different cities.

FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

- **The role of higher and further education in cities** report in the knowledge economy has now completed its case studies of Leeds, Birmingham, Brighton and Norwich and the written report is being finalised now.
- **The impact of the knowledge economy on city labour markets**. We have been looking at three medium-sized cities and tracking how their economy and industrial structure have changed over the last twenty years. What have the consequences of economic restructuring been for less-skilled workers? How have cities managed these consequences? This report will be published in September 2008.

GETTING INVOLVED

We are now taking new members for the 2008-2009 Ideopolis City Leaders network. Between October 2008 and September 2009, the network will be offering:

- **Five events on key issues affecting cities.**
In the pilot phase events covered distinctiveness and local economic strategies; skills and city labour markets; and, who runs a city.
Members will have the opportunity to shape the format and focus of events. We would also be keen for members to participate as speakers, for example giving a presentation on how you transformed your city centre.
- **Five snapshot analyses**
Short papers or bespoke quantitative analysis on hot topics will be pre-released to network members before publication. For example, an update on which areas are increasing their knowledge based businesses at the fastest rate and how this links to other economic indicators.

- **Monthly update emails**

These will include event write-ups, highlights of external research publications and responses to public policy announcements.

- **A complimentary place at the 2009 Ideopolis Conference**
- **Access to a growing case study database of best practice by UK and international cities**
- **Online resources**
- **Access to The Work Foundation's Ideopolis Team**

[More details on the network can be found here](#). Please contact [Sarah Barnett](#) if your organisation is interested in joining.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

We will continue to keep you updated on the latest developments in our research every month, however do look at [The Work Foundation's website](#) for more details of areas on which we are working and information on how to work with us. Please send any questions or comments to [Sarah Barnett](#).

If you would prefer not to receive a monthly update please reply to this email inserting the word REMOVE in the subject line.