



Ideopolis: Knowledge Cities

October 2008

This issue features:

- **What's new:** The Future of Cities Guardian Supplement, Ideopolis City Leaders Network, Party Conferences
- **Future Publications:**
 1. The role of higher and further education in cities – to be launched at 'The New Enlightenment? The Future of the University in the Knowledge Economy' event on 11 November 2008
 2. The impact of the Knowledge Economy on city labour markets
- **Getting Involved:** Join the **Ideopolis City Leaders Network**
- **Events:** The Credit Crunch, Embedding Education Institutions
- **Keeping in touch**

WHAT'S NEW?

- The Ideopolis Team's Associate Director, **Alexandra Jones**, has recently contributed to **The Guardian's Future of Cities** supplement alongside prominent names including **Rt Hon Hazel Blears MP**, **Richard Florida**, **Geoff Mulgan**, and **Eric Pickles MP**. The supplement was published online on 1 October and full details can be found at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/futureofcities>.
- Time is running out as we will soon be closing membership for our 2008-2009 **Ideopolis City Leaders Network**. Full details of membership can be found on our website <http://www.theworkfoundation.com/research/ideopolis/network.aspx>. Topics for Network events this year include The Credit Crunch and Embedding Anchor Institutions in Cities. We have confirmed some fantastic speakers for these including **Sir Michael Parkinson** and **Will Hutton** for our Credit Crunch event. Please contact [Sarah Barnett](#) as soon as possible if you would like to join the Network.

- The Ideopolis Team were 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, were 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 covered a wide range of urban issues, including housing and transport to the impact of recent economic turbulence on cities. More details and pictures from the events will be posted on our website soon.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The role of higher and further education in cities in the knowledge economy report has now been completed and will be launched at The Work Foundation's [The Future of the University in the Knowledge Economy Conference](#) at Browns Courtrooms, St Martin's Lane, London on 11 November 2008.

FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

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 November 2008.

A council of perfection? Reviewing the links between types of governance and the economic success of cities. The first Working Paper in the Ideopolis City Leadership theme reviews the relationships between the governance types and structures and the economic performance of the 56 largest UK cities, concluding that whilst there are more effective scales and types of governance – particularly when governance structures can enable cities to access finance – governance is just one of many factors that affect economic success. This independent paper will be published in November 2008 and has been supported by Norwich City Council.

GETTING INVOLVED

Apply now to ensure your place in the [2008-2009 Ideopolis City Leaders network](#). Between October 2008 and September 2009, the network offering includes:

- **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.
- **Five snapshot analyses**
Short papers or bespoke quantitative analysis on hot topics will be pre-released to network members before publication. Our first analysis will be looking at the impact of the Credit Crunch on the manufacturing industry.
- **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**

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

EVENTS

- The New Enlightenment? The Future of the University in the Knowledge Economy, 1 Day Conference, Central London, 11 November 2008.
- The Credit Crunch – Ideopolis City Leaders Network Event, The Work Foundation, 12 November 2008 – speakers: Sir Michael Parkinson and Will Hutton.
- Three Years On: Revisiting ex-MG Rover workers – ½ day conference, Portcullis House, London, 13 November 2008.

This conference launches the report '*Life after Longbridge: Three Years on. Pathways to re-employment in a restructuring economy.*' Following the 2005 closure of the MG Rover plant in Birmingham, The Work Foundation and the Birmingham Business School have tracked former employees to investigate how their working lives and overall wellbeing have been affected.

- Manufacturing in a Knowledge Based Economy Seminar, The Work Foundation, 2 December 2008.
- Embedding Education Institutions in Cities – Ideopolis City Leaders Network Event, The Work Foundation, 4 December 2008 – speakers include: Estelle Morris, Cathy Garner, David Wolff and Alan Moody.

A full list of The Work Foundation's events can be found on our website:
www.theworkfoundation.com/events.aspx

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.