

Programme: Capability and Capacity Building in Place Leadership: Identity, Inclusion and Change

Thursday 10 April 2025 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM BST

Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, B15 2TT

09:30-10:00 - Registration and coffee

10:00-10:10 - Opening remarks

- [Professor Rebecca Riley](#), Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor Regional Engagement and Co-Director City-REDI, University of Birmingham

10:10– 10:40

- [Katie Trout](#), Director of Policy and Partnerships West Midlands Growth Company and former Chief Executive of Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership

10:40-11:10 - Challenges and opportunities for local government

- [Kersten England CBE](#), Chair of Trustees The Young Foundation, Chair Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture and former Chief Executive York and Bradford Councils.
- [Lukas Kammerer](#), OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

11:10-11:20– Introduction to Special Issue and Policy Briefing opportunities

11:20-11:30 Break

11:30-13:00 - Session 1

13:00-13:45 - Lunch

13:45-15:00 - Session 2

15:00-15:15 - Coffee

15:15-16:30 - Session 3

16:30-16:45 - Update on forthcoming Special Issue

16:45-17:00 - Concluding remarks

Parallel session 1a: institutions and place leadership

Professor John Shutt (Northumbria University) and Professor Joyce Liddle (Durham University)	Place Leadership under Combined authorities in the United Kingdom. Are we making much progress under a New Government?	15 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Dr Jack Newman (University of Bristol), Dr Charlotte Hoole (University of Birmingham), Dr Timea Nochta (University of Birmingham) Dr Sam Warner (University of Bristol)	Capacity gaps in the English Devolution White Paper	
Professor Chris Chapman (University of Glasgow) and Professor Mel Ainscrow (University of Glasgow)	Rethinking roles and responsibilities in an urban local authority	
Professor John Mawson (INLOGOV, University of Birmingham) and Dr. David McGuinness (Faculty of Built Environment, Northumbria University)	Place Leadership and Governance in the Anglo Scottish Border	

Parallel session 1b: communities and place leadership

Matthew J Young, Co(l)aboratory Research Hub Manager, Nottingham Trent University	Empowering communities to lead evidence-based change through civic partnerships in place-based research: The Co(l)aboratory Research Hub	20 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Dr Rebekah Smith McGloin, Director of Research Culture and Environment, Co(l)aboratory Research Hub Director		
Joanna Stanberry, University of Cumbria	Joining the Mountains to the Sea: Strengthening Civil Society in Cumbria	
Katie Lee, University of Leeds	Embedding public art: a long-term approach to serving post-industrial communities	

Parallel session 2a: sub-national spaces and place leadership

Professor Will Rossiter (Nottingham Trent University) and Professor Clifford Stevenson (Nottingham Trent University)	Place leadership when (place-based) identities, economic and administrative geographies conflict: An East Midlands case study	15 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Professor Michael Woods (Aberystwyth University)	Building Capacities for Inclusive Place Leadership: Perspectives from Rural Wales	
Dr Rob Richardson (University of Manchester)	Place leadership through local planning: Developing capacity for economic and urban regeneration	

Parallel session 2b: international perspectives

Dr Ania Ankowska (Leeds Beckett University) and Dr Kaisa Savolainen (Aalto University, Finland)	Redefining the public sector experiences through human-centred design	15 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Alvaro Sainz (Independent consultant)	Capability and capacity building in place leadership: identity, inclusion and radical change in North America	
Professor Martin Pelucha, Prague University of Economics and Business, Czech Republic	Leading Just Transition through a strong institutional agency model: Learning issues from the Czech Moravian-Silesian Coal Region	

Parallel session 3a: visions of place

Dr Martin Quinn (Lancaster University) and Dr Divya Jyoti (Lancaster University)	Leadership for/of People or Place ?: Regenerating the West End (not that one!)	15 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Professor Kieran Fenby-Hulse (Teesside University)	Imaginative Approaches to Collective Place Leadership in the Tees Valley	
Warren Smith (Institute of Community and Society, University of Wolverhampton)	Visions of Sandwell: creating healthy places through collaborative and democratic governance; visions and realities.	

Parallel session 3b: new perspectives on place leadership

Dr Lizzie Smith, University of Stirling	The enabling role of water in place leadership	15 minutes per paper. Followed by time for questions.
Professor Kristine Kern (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space), Dr Elisa Kochskämper (Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space), Associate Prof Peter Eckersley (Nottingham Trent University)	Governing the spatial scaling of climate policy <i>within, beyond, and across</i> cities	
Professor Gary A. Dymki (Leeds University Business School, University of Leeds)	Placing place-based research in post-hegemonic, post-Brexit Great Britain: Is there a spatial fix in an era of hypermobile global finance?	