

The Academy of Urbanism and RIAI present:
Networks and Magnets: The National Role of Regional Cities

Tuesday 23 February 2021, 09:15-12:30 GMT

and

Wednesday 24 February 2021, 09:15-13:00 GMT

A joint conference between The Academy of Urbanism and RIAI across two sessions to examine the conditions that are enabling small and medium-sized cities across the regional context to achieve growth, prosperity and a good quality of life for all.

Small and medium-sized cities have not had it easy. For successive decades, while cities such as London, Dublin, Edinburgh and Glasgow have prospered, smaller and medium-sized cities have had to grapple with the challenges of inequality, falling productivity and investments, while battling a perception of bigger-is-best. As a result, many of these cities have failed to propel themselves forward and embrace sustainable growth and a good quality of life for all.

However, through changes to local and national policies and trends in how people live and work, cities such as Cork, Coventry and Perth are beginning to attract people and work towards matching their potential as great places to live, work and visit.

Whether it's the Project Ireland 2040's strategy to "make Ireland a better country for all of its people" by spreading investment across cities, Perth's ambition to be the most sustainable small city in Europe, or a united focus across the cities between Oxford and Cambridge, cities and policymakers are beginning to think and act differently regarding size.

But how do these places ensure that they are maximising their potential? How do they reach consensus on costly issues such as the environment and infrastructure? And how do they ensure that all of this is balanced with the needs and desires of the people who live there?

Join us to hear from a range of case studies at different scales across different sectors in Ireland, Scotland and England, as well as established leading success stories in continental Europe. Find out how smaller cities are prospering with a focus on city and regional structures and governance, health and wellbeing, connectivity and innovation.

Who will attend?

This event is aimed at those from across sectors, including policy, planning, architecture, urban design, economic development, local and national politics.

TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY*Times in GMT*

09:15	Housekeeping
09:20	Welcome and Introduction from session chair Tony Reddy, Director of The Academy of Urbanism
	Network and magnet cities
09:25	Ireland 2040 Darragh O'Brien, Minister for Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
09:35	Urban Regeneration and Adaptive Place-making Martin Colreavy, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
09:55	Q&A
	Future opportunities
10:15	Unlocking the potential of the UK's medium-sized cities Councillor John Merry, Chair of the Key Cities Group and Deputy Mayor of Salford
10:35	A green local recovery Meg Kaufman, Head of Outreach, What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth, based in the Centre for Cities
10:55	Q&A
11:15	Break
	Connecting and collaborating
11:30	Connecting Ireland Frank Allen, Chair of Iarnród Éireann / Irish Rail
11:50	Achieving Growth, Innovation and Quality of Life in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Bev Hindle, Executive Director, Oxford-Cambridge Arc
12:10	Q&A
12:30	Summary from Chair and Close

WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY*Times in GMT*

09:15	Housekeeping
09:20	Welcome and Introduction from chair Biljana Savic, Director of The Academy of Urbanism
	Creating a new economic and cultural purpose
09:25	Reinventing Eindhoven Thom Aussems, former CEO of Trudo
09:45	Q&A
	Investing in places and people
10:00	National Development Plan Review Charlotte Sheridan, Director of Sheridan Woods and Board Member of the National Asset Management Agency (Ireland)
10:20	Built by Us: Opportunities for smaller Cities and Towns Judith Sykes, Director, Useful Projects and former Commissioner of the MK Futures 2050 Commission
10:40	Q&A
11:00	Break
	Vibrant and viable places to live
11:15	Perth and the Tay Cities Deal: City and city region David Littlejohn, Head of Planning & Development (Chief Planning Officer), Perth & Kinross Council
11:35	Making space for regional cities Duncan Sutherland, Deputy Chair, Homes England
11:55	Q&A
12:15	Introduction from Session Chair Kevin Murray, Director, Kevin Murray Associates
12:20	Keynote: Freiburg's 20 Year Journey of Sustainable Development Prof Wulf Daseking, former Chief Planner, City of Freiburg
12:50	Q&A Summary from Kevin Murray
13:10	Close

Tickets

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/networks-and-magnets-the-national-role-of-regional-cities-tickets-133702920033>