



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **REGENERATION CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICE**

Urban regeneration company Ilex today held a one-day conference entitled *Regenerating and transforming our city – learning from international best practice*. Over 200 delegates attended the event in the City Hotel which brought together experts who outlined international best practice from cities around the world.

Speaking at the event Chairman of Ilex, Sir Roy McNulty set the context for the conference and explained: **“Today’s conference is another important step towards the new Regeneration Plan for the city region. Following on from the Equality Seminar of last November and the Future Search event held in February, today is all about benchmarking with successful cities and learning what makes a successful, competitive, sustainable city. What are the challenges along the way? What are the pitfalls? What has worked elsewhere?”**

**Today’s event brings local experts together with specialists from London, Paris and Cape Town who will help us signpost the way towards physical, economic and social regeneration. More than anything, today is about raising our sights, raising our expectations, and raising our game”.**

Speakers at the conference include Debra Mountford and Greg Clark, OECD (Paris and London), Andrew Boraine, Cape Town Partnership (South Africa) and David Higgins,

Olympic Delivery Authority (London). The Chief Executive of Derry City Council, Valerie Watts, will speak of the local context.

At the conference Sir Roy McNulty also took the opportunity to launch the report of the Equality Seminar held in November 2008 and paid particular tribute to Inez McCormack for her contribution to ensuring that the Equality agenda is mainstreamed in the city's regeneration programme.

Copies of all conference presentations are downloadable from the Ilex website [www.ilex-urc.com](http://www.ilex-urc.com) and copies of the Equality Seminar proceedings are available from Ilex on [info@ilex-urc.com](mailto:info@ilex-urc.com)

For further information contact Mo Durkan, tel. 028 712 69226 or 07917 544297.

## **EDITORS' NOTES**

Northern Ireland's only Urban Regeneration Company Ilex was set up in 2003 by the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) and the Department for Social Development (DSD) to plan, develop and sustain the economic, physical and social regeneration of the Derry City Council area.

Ilex's strategic objectives are:

- To create and promote the coordinated regeneration of the Derry City Council area generally and to facilitate its implementation in cooperation with DSD, other relevant government departments, Derry City Council, the private sector and other interested parties; and
- To secure the economic, social and physical regeneration of the Ebrington and Fort George sites