



16th February 2009

Dear

**Central Wales – West Midlands Memorandum of Understanding: Invitation to Strategic Forum Event**

On behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government and the West Midlands Regional Assembly we are pleased to invite you to the Cross-border Strategic Forum Event to be held at **Hope Community Church Conference Centre, Newtown, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2009.**

In March 2007 we launched the Central Wales – West Midlands Memorandum of Understanding on Cross-border Collaboration. The government mechanisms envisaged at that time are now in place. We would like to invite you to come and reflect on the progress made and explore the key priorities for the future.

The Welsh Assembly Government and the West Midlands Regional Assembly are continuing to promote stronger and more effective cross border collaboration between all key organisations in Central Wales and the West Midlands. We want to foster better dialogue on both policy development and service delivery, so that the border between England and Wales does not prevent “joined up” service provision for communities dependent on cross border access to services.

Your organisation will have an important part to play in taking forward this initiative so we hope that you will be able to prioritise the event in your diary. Refreshments will be available from 10.00 a.m. at **Hope Community Church Conference Centre, Newtown**, with the event starting at 10.30 a.m. A networking lunch will be provided at 1.15 p.m. and there will be an opportunity to visit the various display stands. There will also be a further opportunity to sign up to the Memorandum of Understanding.



We would be grateful if you could send the completed registration form to Ross Hedley either by email ([ross.hedley@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ross.hedley@wales.gsi.gov.uk)) or post to: Ross Hedley, Welsh Assembly Government, Cathays Park, CP1, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ by **2<sup>nd</sup> March** indicating whether or not you will be able to attend this important event.

| Yours sincerely

Alun Ffred Jones  
Minister for Heritage  
Lead Spatial Plan Minister for Central Wales  
Welsh Assembly Government

Cllr David Smith  
Chairman  
West Midlands Regional Assembly