

# *'Supporting Communities during the Economic Downturn'*

**Assembly Conversation – 2 p.m. - 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

**In the John Lee Theatre at the Birmingham Midlands Institute**

(Link to map: <http://www.bmi.org.uk/location.html>)

The current financial crisis will impact upon individuals, on families and on whole communities across the world.

This short event will offer the opportunity to hear how the economic downturn is affecting the West Midlands and seek to explore the steps we can take to support the needs of local people and local communities during the challenging months ahead.

## **AGENDA**

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| 2:00 | <b>Introduction</b><br>David Smith (Chairman: West Midlands Regional Assembly) |
|      | <b>Speakers</b>  |
| 2:10 | Glynn Jones (Head of Economics and Strategy: Advantage West Midlands)          |
| 2:20 | Sue Wigley (Area Director: Citizens Advice Bureau)                             |
| 2:30 | Barrie Williams (Chairman: West Midlands Business Council)                     |
| 2:40 | <b>Open Discussion and Questions</b>   |
| 3:15 | Close  |