

Autumn and Winter Seminars 2012/13

The South West Observatory's Autumn and Winter series of events runs from October 2012 to March 2013 as a follow up to the *Changing State of the South West* report and coinciding with the release of 2011 Census data.

Senior policy makers and practitioners at each themed event will discuss current policy drivers and their state of implementation and explore how evidence can be used to inform better decision-making in that framework.

Booking is now open for the first in the series:

Forecasting, Planning and Admissions: Getting Pupil Numbers Right

Thursday 25 October 2012

Armada House, Telephone Avenue, Bristol BS1 4BQ (near Bristol Temple Meads station)

Pupil number forecasting underpins pupil place planning, it informs funding for schools, expansion and building decisions and negotiations with developers for social contributions. Where supply and demand for school places do not match, the application of admissions policies can be politically sensitive and emotionally charged.

Whilst approaches to forecasting vary, the building schools for the future programme has halted, Section 106 is being superseded by the Community Infrastructure Levy, and popular schools in some areas are oversubscribed while others struggle to fill their places.

This event brings together national and local perspectives to discuss policy drivers and inter-relationships, share experiences and best practice and explore how evidence can better inform decision making.

Confirmed contributors include:

- Shirley Parks, Head of Pupil Place Planning, Education Funding Agency
- Nigel Payne, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Examiner, The Planning Inspectorate
- Dinah Roake, Spatial Planning Manager, HCA ATLAS Team
- Gil Sweetenham, Strategic Commissioner - Planning and Contracts, Brighton and Hove Council
- Stephen Chandler, Early Years & Schools Planning Officer, South Gloucestershire Council
- Chris Watt, Managing Director, and Ian Nockolds, Director, Cognisant Research

Workshops will enable more detailed discussion about:

- Challenges of marrying pupil forecasts and developer contributions
- The forecasting process within pupil place planning
- Schools, new schools and the admissions process

Register online to reserve your place: www.swo.org.uk/events/getting-pupil-numbers-right

Details of the remainder of the series will be on the SWO website in due course. These include:

Welfare Reform - Tuesday 13 November 2012, Albemarle Centre, Taunton

Health and Wellbeing - Thursday 29 November 2012, Monkton Park, Wiltshire Council offices (Chippenham)

Transport and Infrastructure - tbc January 2013

Housing, Planning and the Economy - tbc February 2013, UWE Bristol

Further information South West Observatory **T** 01823 447391 **E** enquiries@swo.org.uk www.swo.org.uk

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