

## AGENDA

### State of the Economy Conference 14 December 2023

08:30am	Registration, teas/coffees, pastries and networking
09:00am (5 mins)	Welcome - <b>Stuart Dawkins, President, East Midlands Chamber</b>
09:05am (5 mins)	Welcome - <b>Professor Dan Ladley, Dean of School of Business, University of Leicester</b>
<b>The Economic Perspective</b>	
09:10am (15mins)	Year in review: <b>Chris Hobson, Director of Policy &amp; Insight, East Midlands Chamber</b>
09:25am (20mins)	View from the Markets - <b>Sat Khuntia, Global Head of Transactional FX Sales, Barclays</b>
09:45am (40mins)	<p>The Big Conversation 1 – <i>‘Economic performance and prospects’</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sat Khuntia, Global Head of Transactional FX Sales, Barclays</b></li> <li>- <b>Jill Thomas, Managing Director and Owner, Future Life Wealth Management</b></li> <li>- <b>Professor Stephen Hall, Professor of Economics, School of Business, Leicester University</b></li> <li>- <b>Stuart Dawkins, President, East Midlands Chamber</b></li> <li>- <b>Mukesh Bulsara, Partner, Coadax LLP and Vice Chair, Leicestershire Business Voice</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Led by - Chris Hobson, Director of Policy and Insight, East Midlands Chamber</b></p>
10:25am (20mins)	Break

## The Political Perspective

10:45am (10mins)	Developing a manifesto for East Midlands Businesses: <b>Richard Blackmore, Head of Special Projects, East Midlands Chamber</b>
10:55am (10mins)	Labour Response: <b>Jeevun Sandher</b> , Labour Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Loughborough
11:05am (10mins)	Conservative Response: <b>Cllr Peter Bedford</b> , Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Leicestershire Mid
11:15am (20mins)	<p>Coping Strategies for business, and how Government can help: <b>Jonathan Geldart, Director General, Institute of Directors</b></p> <p>The UK economy continues to suffer from high interest rates, stubborn inflation, an ongoing cost of living challenge and the knowledge of an election in mid to late 2024. Internationally the stresses include multiple points of conflict, ongoing accusations of nationally sponsored espionage, AI concerns and the climate crisis. Jon Geldart will seek to bring these together to offer coping strategies for business in the UK at this difficult time.</p>

## The Business Perspective

11:35am (40mins)	<p>The Big Conversation 2 – <i>‘What businesses want from the next 12 months’</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Lisa Gilligan, Managing Partner, Leicester, Freeths</b></li> <li>- <b>Alex Hudson, East Midlands Partner, PWC</b></li> <li>- <b>Mark Deakin, Director, Cost Management, Turner &amp; Townsend and Chair of East Midlands Chamber, Derbyshire Members Forum</b></li> <li>- <b>Sandra Wiggins, Managing Director, Sandra Wiggins Consulting Ltd, T/A Authentically Balanced</b></li> <li>- <b>Craig Brothers, Director Six Degrees Associates Limited and Chair of the Nottinghamshire Members Forum</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Led by Richard Blackmore, Head of Special Projects, East Midlands Chamber</b></p>
12:15pm	Close - Teas, coffees and mince pies