

# Birmingham mayor debate hosted by Bruntwood

Submitted by: theEword

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Office space specialist Bruntwood hosted a debate between candidates for the role of Birmingham's first ever elected mayor which was attended by more than 70 of the city's most prominent business people.

Bruntwood is most well-known for providing a wide range of commercial office space – from traditional suites to virtual office space (<http://www.bruntwood.co.uk/search/virtual-offices/birmingham/all/page/1>) – but the company also runs events, including a series named Breakfast by Bruntwood. The mayoral debate was organised as part of this programme.

Candidates Sir Albert Bore, Gisela Stuart MP, Desmond Jadoo and Sion Simon spoke to the audience about topics such as the regional economy, employment, infrastructure and housing, before engaging in a debate chaired by Bruntwood's Development Director, Peter Crowther.

Mr Crowther said: "We received phenomenal interest in the event, and it's testament to the strength and leadership of our city's business community that so many people are getting involved in the debate.

"We're thrilled that Breakfast by Bruntwood continues to provide Birmingham's business people with debates on the topics that really matter. This is an issue that will have a big impact on how the city is run, and it's positive to see people engaging in politics and taking an interest in the future of Birmingham."

The audience featured members of two opposing campaigns: Yes To An Elected Mayor and No To A Power Freak; while key themes of discussion included the engagement of communities in creating jobs, transportation and leadership.

Public consultation is often undertaken by local authorities to ensure that people are able to get involved in issues affecting their area. For events as prominent as the mayoral debate, it is important that the most suitable function rooms Birmingham (<http://www.bruntwood.co.uk/meeting-rooms>) has to offer are chosen, with regard to capacity and location.

On this occasion, the chosen venue was Bruntwood's McLaren building, which has undergone a £7.5m refurbishment in recent years. It offers office space and meeting room facilities (<http://www.bruntwood.co.uk/meeting-rooms/birmingham>), much of which has a panoramic view of Birmingham's skyline.

Website: <http://www.bruntwood.co.uk/>.