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Black Country Constructing Excellence Club

## The Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership & Construction - Building A New Relationship

The speakers at this event will be: Mr John Garrett and Mr Stewart Towe



John is a member of Sandwell Council's Senior Management Team and is the Interim Corporate Director - Place.

John is responsible for a wide portfolio of services within Place including:-

Urban Regeneration and Economy including:- Planning, transportation, urban design, economic development and regeneration, employment and skills, building consultancy, business advice, LEP, Think Local.

Street Scene including:- Car parking, street and park wardens, traffic management, highways, engineering consultancy, waste strategy collection and disposal, architecture, parks and green spaces, Sandwell Valley, grounds maintenance, building services.

Homes and Communities including:- Housing policy, housing partnerships, Sandwell Homes, private sector housing, home improvements, environmental health, trading standards, safety and licensing, domestic violence community safety, Anti-social behaviour, community engagement.

John was brought up in Leicester where his family ran a small business in the retail sector and graduated from Birmingham University in 1984. He has spent most of his adult life in the West Midlands, working for Sandwell and Walsall Councils in the field of social care. Having spent some time in North East Lincolnshire John returned to Sandwell in 2007 as Head of Adult and Community Services.

John holds a BA, a social work qualification, and an MBA.



Stewart Towe CBE is the Group Chairman and Managing Director of Hadley Industries Holdings Limited. Trained as an Accountant with the Birmingham firm of Farmiloe & Co, Stewart moved into Industry in 1976 on completion of his final exams as Group Accountant and was appointed to the Main Board in 1978, taking responsibility for the commercial and financial development of the Group. Stewart completed the buy-out of the business from the Hadley family in April 2006.

Hadley has grown from £1 million annual turnover in the mid 1970's to over £100 million annual turnover in 2010. Growth has been primarily by product development, and not acquisition. Hadley now have manufacturing plants in the Middle East, Far East and Europe and licensees throughout the world.

Stewart's professional experience includes:

- Awarded C.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, June 2008, for services to Industry in the West Midlands

- Appointed as Business in the Community's Regional Ambassador for the West Midlands by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales in June 2007
- High Sheriff of the West Midlands 2012 (in nomination)
- Chair – Business in the Community, West Midlands Region (October 2009 onwards)
- Chair – Black Country L.E.P. (December 2010 onwards)
- Chair - The Sandwell Partnership (L.S.P.) (2004 - 2006) and 2008 onwards
- Chair of Governors - Bromsgrove School and Alexandra High School and Sixth Form Centre, Tipton
- Chair - Black Country Employment & Skills Board
- Governor - Sandwell Academy and Wolverhampton University
- Member of HSBC International Advisory Board
- Member of the CBI Manufacturing Council
- Past President - Sandwell Division of Black Country Chamber of Commerce