



Booking Form for National PB Conference

15th September 2008 Midland Hotel, Manchester

I/we wish to attend the Making Spend Public conference:

Organisation

Address

Post Code

Tel

Fax

Email

Name and Job Title of each delegate:

1st delgate

Title

2nd delegate

Title

3rd delegate

Title

Please specify any special requirements (e.g. dietary, access)

Costs for the conference:

Private/public sectors:

£200

Charities, community & voluntary sectors:

£100

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT OF £50 IF BOOKED BEFORE 31ST JULY 2008

Bursaries may be available. Please enquire.

Method of payment – Please tick one of the following:

I enclosed a cheque made payable to **Church Action on Poverty Ltd** for £

for places at the conference.

I wish to be invoiced. Purchase order/reference no

HOW TO APPLY – PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Post: Jenny Lazarus
PB Unit Conference
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ
Email: mail@participatorybudgeting.org.uk
Fax: 0161 237 5359

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. There will be a £50 administrative charge per delegate. Substitute delegates can be made at any point. No refund will be made for cancellations after 1st September or for failure to attend the conference

Conference Programme

09.30	Coffee on arrival & Registration
10.30	Chair's Opening Remarks
10.35	Keynote Address: Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears MP
11.00	The Story So Far: a celebration of progress A celebratory DVD of what's been achieved followed by short presentations from speakers from different participatory budgeting pilots with a question & answer session
11.50	Tea/Coffee break
12.05	Looking beyond small grants processes: mainstreaming PB and budget consultations
12.15	A Wider Perspective Panel session with short presentations and a question & answer session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Speakers from health & police workshops to introduce models</i>• <i>Speaker on children & young people</i>• <i>Senior councillor champion of PB</i>• <i>International perspective</i>
13.15	Lunch
14.15	Interactive Game
15.00	Workshops <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For those new to PB: Introduction to PB & small grants pots2. Looking forward - Mainstreaming PB: In health, policing, local authority, children & young people's budgets <p><i>Tea and Coffee break during workshop session</i></p>
16.00	Feedback from workshops to main group
16.30	Closing remarks
16.45	End of conference



The Participatory Budgeting Unit, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ
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The PB Unit is a project of the charity Church Action on Poverty (charity no. 1079986)



PB Unit
making people count

MAKING SPENDING COUNT?

A national conference on Participatory Budgeting and its role in community empowerment

Monday 15th September 2008
Midland Hotel, Manchester

Organised by the Participatory Budgeting Unit
and supported by Communities and Local Government

Keynote speaker:

Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Chair. Tricia Zipfel MBE

Elke Loeffler, Governance International

Councillor Charles Adje, Cabinet Member for Resources, London Borough of Haringey

Mark Waters, PB Unit

Jez Hall, PB Unit



The government has identified **participatory budgeting (PB)** as a key strategy in its Community Empowerment White Paper and would like to see it used in all local authority areas in some form within five years.

The government consulted on its national strategy for PB, demonstrating its importance as an empowerment tool.

PB engages with local people to take decisions on the spending priorities for a defined public budget in their local area. It involves deliberative processes to engage residents and community groups in voting on spending priorities and spending proposals, as well as giving local people a role in the scrutiny and monitoring of the process.

Results from pilot work in the UK show that PB has many potential benefits, including:

- *Better targeted and cost-effective service delivery*
- *Engaging more people in decisions about their area*
- *Building social cohesion*
- *Reshaping the relationship between local residents, elected members, and local government officers*
- *Developing more ownership of public spending decisions*
- *Creating more awareness of budgetary processes and limits.*

“ Participatory budgeting gives people a real say in how funds are allocated, and helps them to take more ownership of their neighbourhood, to say, “this is my street, my estate, and I’m proud of it. ”

Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears, MP

The Conference

This one-day conference will explore the ways in which PB can be used as a powerful tool to engage citizens in decision-making in a range of budgetary contexts across different areas of public spending.

It will:

- *Explore the opportunities for using PB on devolved mainstream budgets and annual budget consultations*
- *Set out the policy context in which PB is developing, particularly the 'duty to involve'*
- *Showcase the range of PB pilots that have already been developed across the country*
- *Look at the first examples of using PB in the contexts of health and policing*
- *Look at how PB can be a useful tool in Local Strategic Partnership decision-making and the development of Local Area Agreements*
- *Highlight the opportunities and challenges involved in using PB across the different tiers of local government and other local public agencies*

The conference will also demonstrate the range of resources available to help public agencies deliver high quality PB projects. These include:



- *The PB toolkit*
- *Values, principles and standards for PB*
- *ICT opportunities for creating dynamic public events around PB*
- *The developing regional PB learning partnerships for public agencies*
- *The support of the PB Unit and its partners*

Who should attend?

The conference is for everyone who is likely to be involved in developing PB projects and those already involved including elected members, local government officers, those working for primary care trusts, police forces, housing associations and those working in the community and voluntary sector. It will be relevant for both those new to participatory budgeting and those familiar with PB including Chief Executives, departmental heads, policy staff, community engagement practitioners, finance officers, elected representatives, PB practitioners, leaders of the voluntary and community sectors and local residents.

The Venue



The Midland Hotel is Manchester's most famous luxury hotel and the most prestigious in the north of England. It's previously hosted a number of political party conferences, including, most recently the Labour Party Conference in 2006. Having undergone a refurbishment sympathetic to its Grade II listed architecture, the Midland Hotel is a first class conference facility. It is fully accessible and offers high quality services.

The Midland Hotel is located in central Manchester, on Peter Street, opposite the Central Library, a few yards from St. Peter's Square metrolink stop and close to Oxford Road train station. Those travelling by car will find ample parking facilities in the car parks of Manchester Central (formerly GMEX), immediately behind the hotel.

Exhibition Area

We are providing an exhibition area for those wishing to exhibit with stands at the conference. The exhibition area is located within the refreshments area where all refreshments and lunch will be served to delegates to provide delegates with ample opportunity to look around the exhibition. If you are interested in exhibiting, please contact Ruth Jackson at mail@participatorybudgeting.org.uk or on 0161 236 9321, for more information.

Accommodation

There is a multitude of good quality hotels in central Manchester most of which are easily accessible from the venue. Accommodation is not included in the price of the conference and you will need to arrange accommodation with the hotels directly, should it be required. The following hotels are close to the venue.

The Midland Hotel itself has 312 ensuite bedrooms, and the PB Unit has secured a discounted rate of £135 for a double room and breakfast for delegates wishing to stay over. To make a reservation please call the hotel's Central Reservations on 0845 074 0053 and quote "Church Action on Poverty".

Radisson Edwardian Hotel: This hotel is located next to the Midland hotel and offers great facilities. 0800 37 4411

Novotel Manchester City Centre: This is a good budget hotel, located approximately 5 minute's walk from the Midland Hotel. 0161 235 2200

Jury's Inn Manchester: This is another good budget option. The hotel is about a 5 minute walk from Midland Hotel. 0161 953 8888

Hilton Manchester Deansgate: Famous 'Manchester Hilton tower' hotel, located 5 minutes walk from the venue. 0161 870 1600