The Political Economy of the Northern Powerhouse

Thursday 12th November 2015

University of Sheffield
ICOSS Building
219 Portobello
Sheffield, S1 4DP

09:00 – Arrival

09:30 – Welcome by Craig Berry

09:45–11:15 – Discourses of development and innovation in the North (Chair: Craig Berry)

‘Devolution as deal-making: the institutional politics of place-based growth strategies’
Nick Gray (Northumbria University) & Lee Pugalis (University of Technology, Sydney)

‘Déjà vu and disappointment: a long history of planning and politics in the problematic North’
Daryl Martin (University of York), Alex Schafran & Zac Taylor (University of Leeds)

‘Powerhouse of innovation? Prospects and pitfalls of a regional turn in UK science, technology and innovation policy’
James Wilsdon (University of Sussex) & Kieron Flanagan (University of Manchester)

11:15–11:30 – Break

11:30–12:30 – Investing in the Northern Powerhouse (Chair: Rowland Atkinson)

‘City Deals, Decentralisation and the Governance of Local Infrastructure Funding and Financing in the UK’
Peter O’Brien & Andy Pike (Newcastle University)

‘Structurally disadvantaged: the Northern regions within the commercial property investment market’
John Henneberry (University of Sheffield)
12:30–13:15 – Lunch

13:15–14:45 – Breakout sessions

**The role of political parties and civil society in the Northern Powerhouse agenda**
*(Chair: Richard Hayton)*

Arianna Giovannini & Andrew Mycock (University of Huddersfield)

‘Devolution: The Second Coming – What now for Labour and the Tories?’
Jane Thomas

‘An Analysis of the Role of Civil Society in Devolution: Findings from Yorkshire’
Amy Batley (Durham University), Alex Schafran & Zac Taylor (University of Leeds)

**Fiscal decentralisation and the dynamics of regional inequality**
*(Chair: Craig Berry)*

‘Fiscal decentralisation in Greater Manchester: economic growth and the textures and dynamics of local commercial property markets in the North of England’
Kevin Muldoon-Smith & Paul Greenhalgh (University of Northumbria)

‘Economic renewal through devolution: ‘Earnback’, empowerment, and inequality’
Dan Bailey (University of Sheffield)

‘Powerhouse of cards? The “Northern Powerhouse” as a strategy or a brand’
Neil Lee (LSE)

14:45 – 15:00 Break

15:00 – 16:30 Politics and culture in the dis-united kingdom *(Chair: Arianna Giovannini)*

‘Law, Legislation and Rent Seeking: The Role of the Treasury-led Developmental State in The Competitive Advantage of The Southern Powerhouse’
Simon Lee (University of Hull)

‘From Cottonopolis to creative industries: The Importance of Popular Culture in the “Northern Powerhouse”’
Anthony May & Annabel Kiernan (Manchester Metropolitan University)

‘An idea whose time has come? Explaining the (sudden) emergence of “Devo-Manc”’
Brendan Evans (University of Huddersfield) & Georgina Blakeley (Open University)

16:30 Close