



The Liverpool Commonwealth Association

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Strengthening the Commonwealth Advantage

The Liverpool Commonwealth Association Business Summit and Expo - 2019

The **Liverpool Commonwealth Association Business Summit and Expo** is a high level, multi-stakeholder event that brings together government, business and community leaders from the Commonwealth and allies to facilitate dialogue and action on key and relevant issues ranging from trade and investment, inclusive business growth and job creation, economic development and other relevant issues considered central to harnessing the **Commonwealth Advantage** in the Liverpool City Region.

The 53 Commonwealth members enjoy a formidable trade advantage without any formal collaboration. Historical ties, familiar administrative and legal systems, the use of largely one language, English, as the means of communicating with foreign partners, and large and dynamic diasporas have contributed to strong trade relationships among its members. Commonwealth countries, on average, tend to trade around 20 per cent more and generate 10 per cent more investment with each other than with non-member countries.

Whilst Britain's economy is entering a period of change it is evident that the Liverpool City Region is in the middle of a continuing renaissance. Notwithstanding the uncertainty of Brexit and its impact there are potential seismic opportunities for the Liverpool City Region to restructure and grow its economy, particularly by engaging effectively with Commonwealth country members.

The 2019 Business Summit and Expo will be held on **October 2, 2019** in association with the Liverpool John Moores University (Liverpool Business School) and will seek answers to the following questions:

1. What are the key opportunities and challenges to harnessing the Commonwealth Advantage in the Liverpool City Region?
2. What is UK government doing to encourage the process?
3. What is the role of the region's Commonwealth communities in fostering inclusive business growth?

4. What current opportunities and support are available for Commonwealth businesses?

The event will explore the creativity and innovation of Liverpool City Region's businesses – from SMEs to FTSE100s – and the role they can/will play in maximising the opportunities for bi-lateral relations with the Commonwealth.

Additionally, the 2019 Business Summit and Expo will provide a unique opportunity and platform for Commonwealth companies to network and exchange views on intra-Commonwealth business relations and investment opportunities.

Mr. Garth Dallas, Chair of the Liverpool Commonwealth Association said,

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to stage this inaugural Business Summit and Expo, which I believe will highlight the potential of our Commonwealth communities here in Liverpool, the Commonwealth City”

Full program and booking details will be provided soon.

Date: July 3, 2019