

OUR ECONOMY: OUR FUTURE



THE SOUTH WEST DEBATES

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT ECONOMIC STRATEGY

FIVE ISSUES

- securing economic growth within environmental limits
- a growing, ageing and more diverse population
- energy challenges
- competitive threats and opportunities from globalisation
- regional leadership



PURPOSE OF DEBATES

- scope the issues
- identify research questions
- discover best practice and identify options
- explore effect on SW economy
- reach consensus on way forward
- preparing for the next RES



KEY POINTS

- to inform the next RES
- focus on economic impacts
- consistent and rigorous
- jointly led by RDA **and** partners
- building on existing work
- significant investment



DEBATES TIMETABLE

Environmental limits (SH)	Sept 06	CBI EA
Energy (CG)	Jan 07	Arup EDF
Globalisation (NJ)	Mar 07	HSBC UKTI
Population (SR)	July 07	RO ? pension
Regional leadership (SB?)	Sept 07	Exeter Uni



PROGRESS

- Four debates started.
- Research topics identified and underway
- Website created and Forum active (!)
- Partner events
- E-bulletins



MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

- Partner sessions to increase involvement
- Regional newspaper features
- Billboards
- Online blogs and ‘provocations’
- Schools essay competition



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