

Join us for the second in the series of Ulster Bank/Chief Executives' Forum events on:

**Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009**  
**in Ulster Bank Head Office, Donegall Square East, Belfast.**

The event will look at:

## NI Spending Priorities – The Options

You will hear the views of key stakeholders on what they think should be done to further assist the early and fragile signs of economic recovery.

### Inaugural Ulster Bank/Chief Executives' Forum event



Pictured at the inaugural event were: John Hunter CB, Chair, Chief Executives' Forum, Sean Dorgan, Chairman Ulster Bank Group and Iain Osborne, Chief Executive NI Authority for Energy Regulation.

"We face many challenges over the course of the next few years, none more so than managing to do more with fewer public resources. That will impact on all our lives, affect the way business is conducted, raise fundamental questions about the reliance on the public purse and present new opportunities for business and commerce. How we deal with the new economic 'landscape' will determine our pace of recovery and our performance internationally. All sectors – banking included – must learn to embrace this new era, and the first step in doing that is through engagement and dialogue. For that reason, this second event is timely as it gives us all the opportunity to examine the options that are open to the Executive and the Assembly, where the savings can be made and how the new spending priorities will be decided."

*Sean Dorgan, Ulster Bank Group Chairman*

"The significance of the Forum lies in its ability to stimulate debate and constructively explore important issues on a cross-sectoral basis. The need to grow the economy is central. As such it was entirely appropriate that a discussion of the economy should mark the launch of our Ulster Bank Public Affairs Series and our first joint meeting. Reflecting on a fairly sober economic assessment we had a full and healthy exchange of views on where we are going economically and the hurdles we have to overcome. I am grateful to Seán Dorgan, the Bank's Chairman, for having taken the time to come to Belfast to meet with us. Our partnership with Ulster Bank holds much promise. As Seán remarked, "we face many challenges over the course of the next few years" when the long-term impact of the global credit crunch and the economic recession will be felt on public finances."

*John Hunter CB,  
Chairman, Chief Executives' Forum*

### Looking Ahead ...

In a ground-breaking event in the Armagh City Hotel on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010, the Chief Executives' Forum and its sister organisation in the Republic of Ireland, the Association of Chief Executives of State Agencies, will come together for a major conference on the economy entitled "The Road to Recovery – Transforming Public Services". How will recovery be achieved? Will it be different in each jurisdiction? And what will Public Services look like once the administrations in Belfast and Dublin have delivered their decisions?

For full details email: [mail@ceforum.org](mailto:mail@ceforum.org)