

# **BREXIT, MIGRATION & SKILLS IN THE SOUTH EAST ECONOMY**

11.30 **Chairman's welcome**

## **Session 1: How will Brexit affect migration, border security and the skills gap?**

11.35 **Overview of South East migration challenges & opportunities**  
Current levels of migration: the scale and impact of economic migrants, refugees, asylum & children's programmes. How could all these change post Brexit?  
*Speaker: Cllr Paul Watkins, Leader Dover DC, Chairman South East Strategic Partnership for Migration, and member LGA Migration Task Group*

11.50 **Securing the border post Brexit – what needs to be in place?**  
What could be the impact of border controls returning from Calais and what role can technology play in improving security?  
*Speaker: Matthew Finn, Managing Director of Augmentiq*

12.05 **Q&A**

12.25 **LUNCH**

13.10 **EU workers in the South East Economy**  
Skills gaps: What is the likely impact of Brexit and is there an optimum level for migration?  
*Speaker: Dr Carlos Vargas-Silva, Acting Director, Oxford University Migration Observatory and acting member of the national Migration Advisory Committee*  
**A role for local authorities: how councils can help minimise the risk of skills gaps**  
*Speaker: Cllr Keith Mans, Deputy Leader, Hampshire CC*

13.35 **Q&A**

13.45 **Round table discussions**  
What policies are needed to ensure the South East economy continues to thrive post Brexit?

## **Session 2: Migration impacts on council services - funding, opportunities & challenges**

14.15 **Home Office migration priorities**  
The role for councils in helping deliver Government objectives  
*Speaker: Sean Palmer, Deputy Director, Asylum & Specialist Casework, Home Office*

14.25 **The local government perspective**  
How councils are stepping up to the mark: opportunities & funding challenges  
*Speaker: Cllr Gillian Ford, LGA task group on asylum, migration & refugees*  
**Proactive integration: Helping refugees into employment and self sufficiency**  
*Speaker: Tracey Kerly, Chief Executive, Ashford BC*

14.45 **Q&A/ facilitated debate on what councils need to deliver national priorities**

15.05 **Chairman's summary & closing remarks**

15.15 **Close**